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Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-90-101
Thursday
24 May 1990

COMPLETED

JB 99-015230

Daily Report
East Asia

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Japan

Reportage on Visit of ROK President No Tae-u

ROK Envoy Meets Diet Members

OW2305003490 Tokyo KYODO in English 2319 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 23 KYODO—South Korea's ruling party leader Pak Tae-chun arrived in Tokyo on Tuesday night and immediately met with senior Japanese conservative politicians, political sources said Wednesday. Pak, one of the three coleaders of the Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), is President No Tae-u's de facto emissary and will have last-minute talks to iron out differences prior to No's arrival on Thursday for a three-day state visit to Japan, the sources said.

Pak met with former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and Liberal Democratic Party policy chief Mutsuki Kato at a Japanese-style restaurant late in the evening, they said. Exactly what they had discussed at the meeting was not disclosed.

Japan and South Korea have been at odds over Seoul's suggestion that Emperor Akihito offer a clear-cut apology to the Korean people over Japan's colonial rule of the Korean peninsula between 1910 and 1945. South Korea has also called for better treatment of an estimated 680,000 Korean residents of Japan.

No will be the second South Korean President to make a state visit to Japan. His predecessor Chon Tu-hwan came to Tokyo in September 1984.

Nakayama Interviewed About Visit

OW2305201690 Tokyo NHK General Television Network
in Japanese 1225 GMT 23 May 90

[Live interview at NHK studios with Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama by NHK reporter Hatsutoshi Takashima on South Korean President No Tae-u's visit to Japan—from the "NHK News 21" program]

[Text] [Takashima] Minister, thank you for remaining at the studio for this interview. My first question concerns the emperor's remarks, which have become a focal point prior to the visit of South Korean President No Tae-u to Japan. In what way does the government plan to deal with the issues involved in the history between Japan and South Korea, and what plans are there for an apology?

[Nakayama] Regarding relations between Japan and South Korea, Japan colonized the Korean peninsula for 36 years. I think that, during that period, the Koreans' pride and self-respect about their history were badly hurt by the colonial rule. If Korean suffering caused by history still lingers in their minds, a new page in Japan-South Korea relations cannot be opened even if treaties and other matters are concluded between the two countries. Therefore, although the two countries have a sad history written in the 20th century, I think that the government's clear-cut measures are needed in order for Japan and South Korea to bury the pages of this sad history and open a new era. At the same time, we need to work together for the sake of the world and Asia in a global partnership in the future.

[Takashima] Regarding the government's clear-cut measures, the Japanese Government has been taking various measures, which include the remarks by the emperor. As NHK Seoul correspondent Akiyama reported a while ago, it appears that there is a very firm opinion in South Korea. Do you think that the Japanese Government will be able to win the understanding of South Korea through its measures?

[Nakayama] To reiterate what I have said at Diet sessions, I think that it is important for our nation to express regret with sincerity for causing great trouble for people on the Korean peninsula and Asia. It is necessary to make Koreans and Asian people understand Japan's sincerity and views about opening a new era as fresh ideas are pooled. I hope that this will happen.

[Takashima] I would like to ask you about specific issues pending between Japan and South Korea. How do you plan to settle these issues during President No Tae-u's visit to Japan, including the issue of a Japan-South Korea summit meeting?

[Nakyama] Regarding the issue of third generation residents, the Governments of Japan and South Korea have agreed to settle the issue in a satisfactory way by January 1991. There is an agreement about developing nuclear power between the two countries. It is necessary for the two neighboring countries to conclude various arrangements concerning safety in order to deal with nuclear power incidents. The governments of the two countries will undoubtedly conclude agreements on the establishment of a new raw materials center and on sea rescue when President No visits Japan. As to the question of meeting the costs to be incurred during the visits of Koreans residing in Sakhalin to their homeland and in medical treatment for Koreans injured by atomic bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, I plan to settle this question through discussions at the upcoming Japan-South Korea summit meeting.

[Takashima] The ROK is currently facing such economic problems as inflation and a worsening trade deficit. Its economy is not in as robust a situation as it was during the Seoul Olympics. Is there anything that the Japanese side is planning to do, including reconstruction of the South Korean economy?

[Nakayama] So far, Japan has provided various types of cooperation to South Korea. Looking at the international situation, we are in an era in which the economic and political framework of the world is undergoing changes. Asia, in particular, is very different from

Europe in economy and security. Under such circumstances, both nations, which are based on democracy and a liberalistic economy, should cooperate with each other for the sake of Asia and the world. To this end, I think it will be necessary for the two countries to cooperate in scientific and technological exchanges.

[Takashima] In an interview I conducted, President No Tae-u specifically cited advanced technology as a potential cooperation area between the two countries. Do you have any ideas in this regard?

[Nakayama] As I said earlier, the Japanese Government has decided to cooperate in establishing a new raw materials center. Regarding practical technological transfer, I think that we should render as much cooperation as possible in transferring technology to South Korea at the private enterprise level.

[Takashima] The unification of North and South Korea, otherwise known as the North Korea issue, seems to be a major theme of the upcoming Japanese-South Korean talks. Do you think that we can expect a new perspective for the future?

[Nakayama] The Japanese Government has often said that it would exert efforts in preparing an environment in which the conflict between North and South could be peacefully solved. Political and military stability on the Korean peninsula is very important to both Japan and South Korea. Therefore, we will continue to make efforts for the creation of an environment in which both North and South Korea can hold discussions.

[Takashima] Does this mean that we should not expect that there will be a concrete agreement regarding the North and South issue, or that policies will be produced?

[Nakayama] That is right. Regarding the North and South issue, we hope that violent conflicts will be avoided, and that the issue of national unification will be promoted. However, although they are the same race, the two countries have been in conflict. In the era of new historic changes, we hope both sides will hold frank discussions. Frank discussions will bring about stability on the entire Korean peninsula, and ultimately will lead to peace in Asia. Thus, the Japanese Government plans to endeavor in preparation of circumstances in which both sides can hold dialogues as easily as possible.

[Takashima] Thank you very much for being with us.

Chongnyon Demands Apology

OW2305145590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1027 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 23 KYODO—Japan should apologize to all Korean people in both North and South Korea for its colonial rule of the Korean peninsula and abandon its hostile policy toward Pyongyang, a senior official of the pro-Pyongyang General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) said Wednesday. Pak Chae-no, vice chairman of Chongnyon's central standing committee, made the remarks at a press conference in Tokyo given for Japanese reporters prior to South Korean President No Tae-u's visit to Japan Thursday.

Pak said No's visit to Japan is apparently aimed at strengthening political and military ties between Japan and South Korea, while promoting "the two Koreas policy." Noting that No has never been qualified as a representative of the Korean people, Pak said, "however Japan apologizes to No for its past actions concerning Korea, any words are of no avail." He also stressed the need for an authentic apology to all Korean people by Japan.

Pak also accused the Japanese authorities of intensifying suppression toward pro-Pyongyang Korean residents, citing that the authorities arrested three Koreans on suspicion of violating Japan's alien registration law early this month.

Agreement on Sakurauchi Apology

OW2305145690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1247 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 23 KYODO—The ruling and opposition parties agreed Wednesday to have the speaker of the House of Representatives offer an apology in the Diet to South Korean President No Tae-u for Japan's past colonial rule of the Korean peninsula, Diet sources said.

According to the behind-the-scenes agreement reached by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the opposition camp, former Foreign Minister Yoshio Sakurauchi will apologize to South Korea in an unprecedented speech in the Diet on Friday morning in advance of the commemorative speech by No, who is to start his first three-day state visit on Thursday.

Sakurauchi's address to No as head of the highest body of state power is apparently aimed at supplementing similar statements expected to be made by Emperor Akihito and Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, the sources said.

JSP Chairwoman Takako Doi previously proposed to Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu that the Diet adopt a resolution declaring to countries in the Asian region Japan's responsibility for World War II. In response to the JSP demand, the LDP made a counterproposal that Sakurauchi make the apology.

The opposition parties, including the JSP, accepted the LDP proposal, saying they have no objection to express the apology to the South Korean people and the planned speech by Sakurauchi will help enhance prestige of the Diet.

Korean Residents Protest Visit

OW2405101990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1454 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 23 KYODO—A total of 54 Korean residents in Japan declared on Wednesday they would refuse to be fingerprinted when renewing their registration cards under Japan's alien registration law to protest the impending visit of South Korean President No Tae-u. The protesters from Tokyo and neighboring areas made the declaration in a meeting aimed at protesting against No's visit to Japan beginning Thursday.

They said in the declaration that No's visit and a recent accord between Japan and South Korea have no relevance in the struggle of Korean residents in Japan to have the alien registration law and its fingerprinting requirement scrapped.

Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and his South Korean counterpart Choe Ho-chung agreed at a meeting in Seoul on April 30 to eliminate the controversial fingerprinting requirement for legally defined third-generation Korean residents and grant them the automatic right of permanent residence in Japan. The declaration said No is not qualified to have negotiations with the Japanese Government to improve the rights of Korean residents in Japan as South Korea also maintains a similar fingerprinting system.

Under the revised law enacted in September 1988, figerprinting is required only once when South Korean residents in Japan are 16 years old. They must renew their registration identity card every five years.

Meanwhile, about 150 Japanese and South Korean residents held a meeting to discuss Japan's amended immigration and refugee law to be effective from June 1. The meeting, organized by about 20 scholars and lawyers, protested the amendment of the immigration law which the organizers said will produce job discrimination against South Korean residents in Japan. The law provides for stiffer penalties against unskilled foreign workers and their employers.

JSP Head Doi To Meet No

OW2405101890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1306 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 23 KYODO—Japan Socialist Party (JSP) Chairwoman Takako Doi will be the first leader of Japan's No. 1 opposition party to meet a Korean president when she holds talks with South Korean President No Tae-u on Thursday, sources said Wednesday. The South Korean Embassy in Tokyo notified the JSP of its decision on the eve of No's three-day state visit to Japan, which begins Thursday.

Embassy officials said meetings with opposition leaders fall in line with diplomatic practices. The JSP, which has maintained close ties with North Korea, has recently been softening its stance toward South Korea in the wake of a changing international political climate.

No will meet with the chairmen of two other opposition parties, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party, and will meet with former Prime Ministers Noboru Takeshita and Yasuhiro Nakasone in the government's guesthouse.

President No Arrives in Tokyo

OW2405032290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0255 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 KYODO—South Korean President No Tae-u arrived from Seoul on Thursday for a three-day state visit in which the two nations will seek to put historical animosities behind them and build a new economic and political relationship for the future.

No is the second South Korean leader to make a state visit to Japan, following that by his predecessor Chon Tu-hwan in 1984. No is accompanied by his wife, Kim Ok-suk, and his foreign, justice, trade and industry, and science and technology ministers.

On embarking for Tokyo, No pledged in a statement at the airport to exert his best efforts to make his first Japan trip a turning point for future bilateral relations.

He disclosed that in his scheduled address to a joint session of Japan's Diet on Friday, the first by a South Korean head of state, he will clarify his views on the direction relations between the two neighbors should follow toward the next century after the past century of "sacrifice, trial, and violent historical change."

No noted the continued existence of such problems as the status of the 680,000 Korean residents of Japan and the trade imbalance in Japan's favor. Calling for cooperation in economic and technological matters and resolution of past issues, No also stressed the need for bilateral partnership at the opening of an era of the Asia-Pacific region.

Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko are to greet No soon after his arrival, but an expected apology by the Emperor for Japan's past colonization of Korea, which has emerged as a major bilateral sticking point, is not likely to be made until a banquet hosted by the Emperor Thursday evening. South Korean officials were reported as describing a draft of the wording of the apology, conveyed Wednesday through diplomatic channels, as an improvement on a statement by the late Emperor Hirohito, now called Emperor Showa, but saying it still falls short of South Korean expectations.

The Seoul daily CHOSON ILBO said Emperor Akihito will say Japan was responsible for South Korea's unfortunate past, causing him personal sorrow and pain.

No will have two rounds of talks with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu—one Thursday afternoon and the other

Saturday morning. Kaifu is expected to make a "candid and humble" apology in his meeting with No.

Other topics of discussion in the No-Kaifu talks will include unresolved issues stemming from Japan's colonial rule of Korea, such as a securer status for Korean residents of Japan, financial aid for Korean victims of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and the homecoming of Koreans taken by Japan to the island of Sakhalin and abandoned there at the end of World War II when it was taken over by the Soviet Union.

The two leaders will also discuss the future of bilateral relations and try to launch a new partnership between the two nations.

On Friday, the President will address the Diet and attend a luncheon with business leaders and a dinner hosted by Kaifu.

He will give a press conference at the Japan National Press Club on Saturday before leaving for Osaka to meet Korean residents and local government and business leaders there. He will leave for home from Osaka on Saturday.

During No's stay in Japan, the two countries will conclude a series of accords on technical and cultural exchanges.

Further on Arrival

SK2405074390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0706 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 (YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u arrived at heavily guarded Haneda Airport for a three-day state visit Thursday amid mixed expectations and skepticism about Japan-Korea amity. No and his wife, Kim Ok-suk, stepped out of the presidential jet to a red-carpet welcome and 21-gun salute.

They were welcomed by Japanese Chief of Protocol Yoshitomo Tanaka and Korean Ambassador to Japan Yi Won-kyong and then Korea's first couple exchanged greetings with Japanese Foreign Minister and Mrs. Taro Nakayama, Japanese Ambassador to Korea and Mrs. Kenichi Yanagi and others, and received bouquets of flowers from Korean children.

They were then driven to Akasaka Palace, the official guest house, for a ceremonial welcome. At the palace, No and his wife were greeted by Emperor Akihito, Empress Michiko, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and other Japanese officials, and some 150 Koreans clad in brightly colored traditional clothes.

After the ceremony, No and Akihito were driven to the imperial palace for private talks.

No's visit to Tokyo, the second by a Korean president, was delayed twice last year, first due to the illness of the late Emperor Hirohito and then the Recruit scandal, which resulted in a change of prime ministers.

The trip has been preceded by anti-Japanese demonstrations in Seoul and by bombings and arson by both right- and left-wing extremists in Japan. Haneda Airport was sealed to the public and security officials stood guard at 50- to 100-meter intervals throughout the airport. No's arrival was broadcast live on NHK-TV at noon.

A Japanese Foreign Ministry official said it was unusual for the foreign minister to welcome a state guest at the airport rather than the guest house.

No was to hold his first round of talks with Kaifu at 6 P.M. at the guest house, and they were expected to deal with such topics as the legal status of resident Koreans in Japan, Japan's financial support for Korean a-bomb victims, Korean resentment over Japan's occupation of Korea and cooperation in the fields of science and technology.

No was to emphasize the need for the two countries to step up cooperation in the 21st century after hearing Kaifu express an apology and repentance for Japan's wrongs during its colonial rule of Korea (1910-1945). The talks were to be followed by meetings between the foreign ministers, justice ministers and science-technology ministers of the two countries.

Drawing the keenest attention of both the Korean and Japanese peoples is the imperial dinner in No's honor in the evening, during which Akihito will make apologetic remarks about the period of colonial rule.

Informed Korean sources predicted Akihito would say he "cannot suppress pain and sorrow for the unhappiness his country caused the Korean people early this century." The sources said No would respond by congratulating Akihito on opening the Heisei era, the Japanese name for the period of his rule, and by urging bilateral efforts to remove historical barriers that stand in the way of relations between the two countries.

Prior to his departure for Japan from the Seoul Airport, No announced that he was making the trip in the belief that the two countries should open an era of genuine friendship. "In addition to the task of clearing the dark past, the two nations face many other substantial problems: from improvement of the legal status and treatment of 700,000 resident Koreans in Japan to balanced development of trade and expanding cooperation in the fields of economy, science and technology," he said.

No is taking a political risk by making the trip in defiance of persistent calls for its cancellation among Koreans who view Japan as insincere and reluctant to wash away the dregs of an unhappy past. The Japanese Embassy in downtown Seoul is a daily site of anti-Japanese rallies by people whose families and relatives were drafted by Japan during colonial rule and were killed or are still unaccounted for.

In what could be the most violent protest yet in front of the embassy, a 34-year-old man named Kim Kuk-pin and identified as the son of an independence fighter slashed his stomach Wednesday after shouting "the Japanese emperor must apologize."

Kaifu Apologizes to No

OW2405115490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1139 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu apologized to South Korean President No Tae-u on Thursday with a solemn expression of regret for the sorrow and pain caused to the Korean people by Japanese conduct during its colonial rule of the Korean peninsula from 1910-1945.

"I would like to express my candid and humble apology for the unbearable suffering and sorrow caused by our nation's conduct in the past to the people of the Korean peninsula," Kaifu said.

No welcomed Kaifu's remarks, saying he appreciates his recognition of the unfortunate past history between Japan and Korea. Their meeting, the first between the two leaders, took place at the state guest house hours after No's arrival in Japan for a three-day visit.

Agreement on Legal Status Issue

SK2405124790 Seoul YONHAP in English 1231 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 (YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u and Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu agreed to solve the problems of legal status of the first- and second-generation Korean residents in Japan in a looking-forward manner by early next year.

In the first of a two-session summit, visiting President No and Kaifu agreed on the need that problems concerning the legal status of the first- and second-generation Korean residents in Japan should be settled by concerted efforts based on the April 30 agreement between foreign ministers by January 17 in 1991.

The two foreign ministers had agreed that the children of those Koreans who have had permanent resident status in Japan will automatically have the same status as their parents and as well be entitled to eased alien regulations.

No and Kaifu shared the view that President No's visit to Japan should be a momentum to take the two countries into a new era of future-oriented and improved relations, and that the two nations would make joint efforts for free trade in the wave of widely spreading global tendency toward bloc economy.

The two also agreed that they would make efforts to encourage North Korea to take up open-door policy and to inject a reconciliatory air on the Korean peninsula. They shared the opinion that basis for stabilization in northeast Asia has been not laid yet despite the Soviet Union's reforms and sweeping changes in Eastern Europe.

No is scheduled to have the second round of talks with the Japanese premier on Saturday.

Emperor Akihito, No Hold Talks

OW2405115190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1111 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 KYODO—Japan's Emperor Akihito and South Korean President No Tae-u held their first meeting Thursday at the Imperial Palace in a friendly atmosphere, an Imperial Household Agency official said. The meeting went overtime by 15 minutes with both men engaging in animated conversation, said Grand Master of Ceremonies Kiyoshi Sumiya who attended the talks.

Empress Michiko and No's wife Kim Ok-suk were also present in the palace's Takenoma Room.

The emperor told No that he would officially make a statement on his personal feelings about relations between the two countries at the banquet he hosts for No in the evening, Sumiya said. Emperor Akihito made reference to a portion of his speech for the banquet, which is expected to include his feelings on Japan's colonial rule of Korea during 1910-1945. Sumiya said No appeared to be very impressed by what the emperor said.

Japan and South Korea have undergone a prolonged diplomatic row over the wording of the apology from the Japanese emperor.

It was the first meeting between Emperor Akihito, who ascended the throne on January 7, 1989, upon the death of his father Emperor Showa, and No, who became president in February 1988.

In greeting No, Emperor Akihito said the meeting renewed his feeling that South Korea was really very close to Japan. The emperor recalled his recent visit to Nagasaki and Tsushima, located just across the strait from the Korean city of Pusan.

No did not extend an invitation to the imperial couple to visit South Korea, Sumiya said. Emperor Akihito was invited to South Korea as crown prince in 1986 but illness affecting then-Princess Michiko forced both governments to cancel the trip. It would have been the first time for a Japanese emperor to set foot in the nation which still harbors negative feelings against Japan.

The meeting was originally planned for 30 minutes but lasted 45 minutes as both couples discovered their common interest in tennis, Sumiya said.

No presented Emperor Akihito with a book titled "Korean Art Treasures" and Empress Michiko a mother-of-pearl jewelry box and two books on Korean imperial clothing. In exchange, the emperor gave No a cloisonne vase and his wife a scroll box. A photograph with the signature of the imperial couple was also presented to the presidential couple.

No arrived here Thursday for a three-day state visit as only the second post-war Korean leader after his predecessor Chon Tu-hwan in 1984.

Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko have invited No and his wife to the Akasaka Imperial Garden for a walk on Friday, sources said. The last-minute decision came Thursday to offer the president and his wife an opportunity to enjoy a Japanese garden, they said.

No Addresses Banquet Attendees

OW2405133790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1304 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 KYODO—The following is the unofficial translation of full text of the remarks given by South Korean President No Tae-u at the state banquet at the Imperial Palace on Thursday evening:

Your Majesties the Emperor and Empress, Esteemed Members of the Imperial Family, Your Excellencies Prime Minister and Mrs. Kaifu, Distinguished Guests,

I am grateful to you for so warmly welcoming my wife and me and honoring us with this splendid dinner. I am also thankful for Your Majesty's warm and friendly remarks about my country and people.

It is a great pleasure for me to visit Japan as it is opening the new Heisei Era with your ascension to the throne. And I consider it of utmost significance that today, I have this historic opportunity to get to know your majesty and personally congratulate you on your becoming emperor. I pay tribute to Japan for having risen from the ashes of war and rebuilt itself into a peaceful and prosperous nation that is the envy of the world. I am convinced that the Heisei Era will see peace, prosperity and fellowship enhanced not only in Japan but also throughout East Asia and the whole world beyond.

From time immemorial to the present, the two countries of Korea and Japan have had close contacts as next-door neighbors. Through interaction across a narrow strait, our peoples have significantly influenced each other's cultural development. We have shared many good things together but in more modern times, we experienced a painful phase also. Compared with the long history of neighborly and amicable association, however, the dark period was a relatively short one.

It is not possible to erase or forget historical facts. Nevertheless, we must not remain bound up in memories. Our two nations must now forge a new era of friendship and cooperation based on a proper historical perspective, putting the mistakes of the past truly behind us. It is significant that your majesty, the symbol of Japanese history and the new Japanese nation, has shown deep concern about this matter.

To ensure that our two nations will become close neighbors in spirit as well as geographically, all of us now should strive together to remove the dark shadow of history and negative residues of the past that have stood in the way of developing our bilateral ties. In that way, we should be able to bequeath wholesome bilateral ties to our posterity.

Your Majesty,

The 21st century is now fast approaching in the midst of tremendous upheavals. The burning human desire for freedom and prosperity has rubbled the cold war structure, drastically reshaping the global political landscape. Freedom and democracy, ideals which both Korea and Japan have been pursuing, have begun to prevail as universal values.

It has long been predicted that the 21st century will be the Asia-Pacific age. In the world today, the relationship between Korea and Japan is therefore not a matter of importance for our two countries alone. For our two nations ought to combine our efforts to take a leading role in promoting peace and prosperity throughout the Asia-Pacific region, an area which will become the cradle of a new civilization harmoniously blending things East and West. Furthermore, our two nations should together make ever greater contributions to global prosperity and well-being. This, I believe, is our responsibility before humanity and history.

Looking back, Hoshu Amenomori, who was in charge of Japanese relations with the Choson Kingdom some 270 years ago, had as his motto, "Sincerity and Good Faith." Hyon Tog-yun, his Korean counterpart, built Songshindang, the hall of sincerity and good faith, in Tongnae, and met Japanese envoys there. Likewise, I am confident our bilateral ties will develop in the future in a spirit of mutual respect and understanding in pursuit of shared ideals and values.

I believe the future of Korea-Japan relations will be bright so long as we endeavor together with good faith and trust to build our ties from a global perspective. As an oriental sage said, "The relationship between true gentlemen is placid, just like calm water." I believe friendly relations between our two nations should be like that also.

Distinguished Guests,

Please join me in toasting the good health, longevity and well-being of their majesties and the boundless prosperity of Japan in the newly-opened Heisei Era.

Thank you.

Akihito Speaks at Banquet

OW2405132790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1256 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 KYODO—The following is the full text of an address delivered by Emperor Akihito at the state banquet he gave in honor of South Korean

President No Tae-u at the Imperial Palace on Thursday evening: Your Excellency The President of the Republic of Korea,

Your Excellency has come to pay a visit to this country with Mrs. No Tae-u in spite of the heavy pressure of affairs of state. It is a matter of great significance and cause of utmost pleasure to me to be able to receive as a state guest Your Excellency the President, who has led your country to its remarkable development. I wish to offer my heartfelt welcome to Your Excellency and your party.

The Korean peninsula and Japan, since ancient times, have maintained close contact as the nearest neighbors. Even during the Edo period when Japan kept its doors closed to the outside world, Japan continued to receive Korean missions and all the Japanese people cordially welcomed them. However, while looking back upon the history of long, fruitful exchanges between the Korean peninsula and Japan, I recall what was stated by the late Emperor Showa: "It is indeed regrettable that there was an unfortunate past between us for a period in this century and I believe that it should not be repeated again." I think of the sufferings your people underwent during this unfortunate period, which was brought about by my country, and cannot but feel the deepest regret.

Having gone through such an era the relationship between our two countries has been restored to normality, thanks to the staunch enthusiasm of those people in both countries, in all circles and at all levels, who have wished for the revival of Japan-Korean friendship, and we now witness friendly and cooperative relations in all fields. To all those concerned, I should like to express my profound respect.

Both Japan and the Republic of Korea have now come to be expected to play important roles for the peace and prosperity of the world. I earnestly hope that the people of our two countries will further deepen their mutual understanding, make the relations between the two countries increasingly mature, and jointly respond to this challenge.

I feel particularly reassured to see active exchanges between young people, who are to take over responsibility in the coming age, and the emergence from these exchanges of a new friendship to unite the two countries. This new friendship will be the groundwork for the two countries to join forces in making a significant contribution to the future of mankind.

I believe that Your Excellency's current visit will lay a foundation for such a new relationship between our two countries that will continue into the 21st century.

I understand that Your Excellency will also visit the Kansai area. Fortunately, this is the season of fresh, pleasant greenery. It is my ardent hope that Your Excellency will find your stay in this country agreeable and meaningful.

May I now propose a toast to the good health and happiness of Your Excellency the President and Mrs. No Tae-u, and to the further prosperity of the people of the Republic of Korea.

Further on Remarks at Banquet

SK2405115190 Seoul YONHAP in English 1103 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 (YONHAP)—South Korean president No Tae-u has begun a three-day state visit to Japan by having his first official meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu several hours after his arrival here Thursday.

Speaking at a state dinner hosted by Japanese Emperor Akihito later in the evening, the South Korean leader called on his hosts to join him in striving together "to remove the dark shadow of history and negative residues of the past," referring to Japan's colonial rule of Korea for the first half of this century.

Responding to Emperor Akihito's welcoming speech at the dinner, in which the Japanese monarch said he felt "repentence" over the sufferings Japan had caused the Korean people earlier this century, No said: "All of us now should strive together to remove the dark shadow of history and negative residues of the past."

The Japanese emperor said in his speech, "I cannot suppress the feelings of repentance that pierce my heart when reviewing the sufferings experienced by your people during an unfortunate period wrought by Japan."

No replied: "It is not possible to erase or forget historical facts. Nevertheless, we must not remain bound up in memories. Our two nations must now forge a new era of friendship and cooperation based on a proper historical perspective, putting the mistakes of the past truly behind us.

"It is significant that your majesty, the symbol of Japanese history and the new Japanese nation, has shown deep concern about this matter."

No has been openly criticized by his fellow Koreans for pushing ahead with this visit in spite of what they called Japan's insincerity concerning the clearance of war crimes.

Terming the dark period "relatively short" compared with the "long history of neighborly and amicable association," No said: "I believe the future of Korea-Japan relations will be bright so long as we endeavor together with good faith and trust to build our ties from a global perspective.

"It has long been predicted that the 21st century will be the Asia-Pacific age. In the world today, the relationship between Korea and Japan is therefore not a matter of importance for our two countries alone.

"For our two nations ought to combine our efforts to take a leading role in promoting peace and prosperity throughout the Asia-Pacific region, an area which will become the cradle of a new civilization harmoniously melding things east and west.

"Furthermore, our two nations should together make ever greater contributions to global prosperity and well-being. This, I believe, is our responsibility before humanity and history," the Korean president said.

Meanwhile, Kaifu said, in his first meeting with No, "I humbly offer an apology for the fact that the people in the Korean peninsula experienced unthinkable sufferings and sorrows wrought by the acts of our country (Japan) in one period in the past."

ROK 'Official Statement' Issued

OW2405160790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1451 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 KYODO—South Korean President No Tae-u indicated his acceptance Thursday of an apology by Emperor Akihito for Japan's colonial rule of Korea, removing a major stumbling block threatening the success of his visit and closer bilateral ties. No welcomed the Emperor's show of "deep concern" at a state banquet hosted in his honor as "significant." The two nations, he said "must forge a new era of friendship and cooperation based on a proper historical perspective, putting the mistakes of the past truly behind us."

In an official statement, presidential spokesman Yi Su-chung appraised the remarks as a clear apology and candid admission that Japan was responsible for past wrongs. But some South Korean journalists accompanying No said they were impressed by the Emperor's sincerity but were concerned that the words might have less of an effect on the Korean public if their impact is lost in translation.

The Emperor's words emerged as a major point of contention when Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party officials objected to No's requests for an imperial apology as an unconstitutional usage of the Emperor's office, triggering a storm of protest from the South Korean press and opposition.

The Emperor, in a toast to No during the banquet, expressed his "deepest regret" for the sufferings of the Korean people "brought about by my country."

Earlier in the day, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu offered a forthright expression of apology in the first of two scheduled sessions with No. Kaifu expressed his "sincere remorse and honest apologies" for "a period in our history in which Japanese actions inflicted unbearable suffering and sorrow on the people of the Korean peninsula."

The two leaders reached agreement on steps to ensure a securer status for Japan's 680,000 Koreans, the establishment of a fund to aid South Korean sufferers of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings and assistance for war-displaced Koreans on the Soviet island of Sakhalin, Japanese officials said. These issues stem from Japan's forcible relocation of over 2 million Koreans during its 1910-1945 rule of the peninsula.

No told Kaifu that in order to remove ill feelings between the two countries, it is necessary for Japan to articulate its feelings to South Korea about the "unfortunate past," Japanese officials said. No said that the path will then be cleared for South Korea and Japan to construct a partnership with a view to the 21st century and become "like brothers." Referring to strong opposition back home to his Japan visit, No said that he considers it "a kind of suffering which is necessary to go through in giving birth to a wonderful child."

Kaifu said he considers No's visit as a starting point for the creation of a "future-oriented cooperative relationship" with South Korea, based on a "global perspective." "In building this cooperative relationship, I believe it is necessary first to clearly and honestly articulate the reality of events that have so regrettably marked our past relations," Kaifu was quoted as saying. Kaifu backed up his apology by saying Japan has made "efforts in good faith to deal with the problems arising from this past," particularly concerning Korean residents in Japan.

In response, No said he highly appraises the outcome of ministerial-level talks held in Seoul in late April, at which the two sides reached a basic understanding on setting out the legal status of the latest generation of Korean residents in Japan, the so-called "third generation Koreans." He expressed his hope that Japan would also similarly improve the living conditions of the so-called first and second generation Koreans, numbering some 680,000, whose legal status was set when the two countries normalized their relations in 1965.

Kaifu responded that Japan would consider the matter while keeping South Korean concerns in mind. He said Japan would continue talks with South Korea toward a mutually satisfactory solution to the issue of whether Korean residents in Japan should be qualified for employment in the public sector as teachers or local government officials.

Kaifu expressed sorrow at the fact that there are many Koreans who still suffer from the effects of the nuclear bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. He promised that Japan will consider offering some 4 billion yen in medical supplies to support South Korean efforts in treating the A-bomb victims, which are variously estimated at numbering between 3,000 and 20,000.

No called for the Japan Government's "consideration" on the question of Koreans brought to Sakhalin Island by the Japanese and stranded there when the Soviet Union seized the territory at the end of the war, many of whom wish to visit or move to South Korea.

Kaifu said Japan is fully aware of its "historical and moral" responsibilities with regard to the matter and will continue to make efforts to alleviate their situation.

The government has asked for an appropriation of 100 million yen from the new budget to be contributed to a special fund to support the travel expenses of Koreans in Sakhalin, Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said.

The president will address a joint session of the Diet early Friday before attending a luncheon hosted by the country's largest economic federation, Keidanren.

No will hold the second round of talks with Kaifu on Saturday, before he leaves for home via Osaka. The two leaders are also set to sign accords on technical and cultural exchanges as a cap to the new bilateral partnership.

No is the first South Korean president to visit Japan after the groundbreaking 1984 visit of former President Chon Tu-hwan. No is accompanied by his wife, Kim Yok-suk, and an official entourage that includes the foreign, justice, trade and industry, and science and technology ministers.

No arrived on a chartered Korean Air flight shortly before noon, and was greeted by a contingent led by Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama. Tight security accompanied No's motorcade downtown as police kept some 200 leftwing protesters from reaching Haneda Airport on the edge of Tokyo Bay. A rightwing procession of some 40 sound trucks blared protests in central Tokyo streets. Over 20,000 security personnel were deployed throughout the city to guard against repeats of the rash of fire-bombings which occurred in the capital area late last week. No arrests were reported.

A multicolored array of women wearing the traditional Korean chima-chogoli dress stood out among South Korean spectators gathered to greet No as he conducted a quick review of a guard of honor at the Akasaka state guesthouse.

The president and his wife exchanged gifts with Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko in an extended session lasting just over 30 minutes.

The president met with several dignitaries during the day, including former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and Japan Socialist Party [JSP] leader Takako Doi and other opposition leaders. The meeting with Doi ended Seoul's long-standing policy spurning the JSP which has traditionally maintained closer ties with North Korea. The two agreed to work toward the unification of the peninsula.

Mongolia

MPRP Releases Manifesto on Upcoming Elections

OW2305181390 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1714 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 23 May (OANA-MONTSAME)—The ruling Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party (MPRP) addressed the population with a manifesto in connection with the forthcoming July 29 elections of hurals of people's deputies of all levels. The document has been published today in its paper "UNEN" and is, in fact, the MPRP's election platform.

The MPRP stands for holding truly democratic elections for the purpose of building a state based on the rule of law which would guarantee full rights of the people. In the years of people's power, the Mongolian people, guided by the party, have achieved real successes in economic and cultural construction and made a great step along the road of social progress. These are the results of the heroic labour of the elder generation and the entire Mongolian people as well as the all-round assistance on the part of the Soviet people and cooperation with other socialist countries, the document says.

While not negating its achievements, the MPRP admits everything negative in its activities and is working for reliably guaranteeing the non-recurrence of old mistakes and shortcomings. The ruling party emphasizes that it does not have any special interests differing from those of the whole people. The MPRP delcares that the main objective of its policy will be invariably the creation of real material conditions for improving people's living standards and for a free development of the personality.

The manifesto outlines concrete undertakings to be taken by the MPRP for improving the conditions of life, work, and study of people. In particular, it stands for allocating in the coming five-year peiod one and a half billion togrog for increasing wages and pensions, for ensuring full power supply to the basic livestockbreeding units (suuri) in the next three years.

The MPRP considers that democracy is the most valuable asset of society and an important condition for free development of the personality. Therefore, the party will be attaching all-round attention to the further deepening and reasonable development of democracy, the manifesto reads.

The MPRP stands for renewing the structure, organization, and activities of people's hurals of all levels, for creating the guarantees of their powers. The MPRP regards its primary task for 1990 [as] the creation of new state structures such as the Great People's Hural, the Baga Hural (permanently functioning highest legislature), and the institute of presidency in the country.

The MPRP is for ensuring stability in society as this would provide an important condition for tackling the tasks of increasing the country's socio-economic potential, improving people's well-being, creating a state based on the rule of law and developing democracy. The major direction of the party's activities will be the democratization of the spiritual life of society, the manifesto stresses.

The party also believes that ensuring favourable external conditions is vital for solving the complex tasks of perestroyka. In this sense, the MPRP will render all-out support to open economic policy and steer a course towards developing and expanding effective cooperation with all the countries.

The MPRP will carry out a policy of developing and expanding all-round relations with the neighbouring USSR and the PRC and work for perfecting—to meet the demands of the day—the treaties and agreements signed with them. The party will facilitate the planning and implementation of consistent polictical measures aimed at ensuring the guarantees of the country's security through nonalignment, renunciation of nuclear weapons, non-deployment of foreign troops in its territory and by promoting trust and mutual understanding, the document reads.

The MPRP regards the ways and methods of implementing its "historical commitments to the people" in a close interrelationship with the tasks of its self-renewal.

The MPRP calls upon all voters to take an active part in the forthcoming elections and display, in their course, high political culture. The MRPP expresses its firm confidence that all those who support the sociopolitical and economic policies of the ruling party will give their votes for it at the elections.

Horloogiyn Heads State Committee for Radio, TV

OW2305094690 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] By the decree of the Presidium of the Mongolian People's Great Hural, Mr. Horloogiyn Tseblee was appointed chairman of the State Committee for Information, Radio Broadcasting, and Television. Previously, he was a deputy editor in chief of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party daily UNEN.

C. Tumendelger was released from this post in connection with the transference to another job. [Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English at 1715 GMT on 22 May in a similar, partly garbled report adds: "The chairman of this state committee is simultaneously the director general of the news agency MONTSAME]

National Progressive Party Registers for Election

OW2305095590 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] The registration of political parties continues in Mongolia. The National Progressive Party of Mongolia was the second after the ruling Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party to be officially registered.

The National Progressive Party was founded early March this year and today it comprises over 1,800 members. It will take part in the forthcoming July the 29th elections within the framework of the coalition of democratic forces together with the Mongolian Democratic Party and the Mongolian Social Democratic Party.

North Korea

WPK Central Committee Holds Plenum 23 May

Shuffles Posts

SK2305124490 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1200 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Communique on the 18th plenary meeting of the Sixth Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee. The 18th plenary meeting of the Sixth WPK Central Committee was held on 23 May. Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and our people and general secretary of the WPK Central Committee, chaired the plenary meeting.

Present at the plenary meeting were members and alternate members of the party Central Committee and members of the party Central Inspection Committee.

The plenary meeting discussed the proposal of the party Central Committee on the plan for organizing the state and government to be submitted to the deliberation of the first session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly. The plenary meeting adopted the relevant decisions.

The plenary meeting saw to the problem of organization.

Comrade Choe Kwang and Comrade Han Song-yong were elected as members of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, and Comrade Choe Tae-pok, Comrade Kim Chol-man, and Comrade Choe Yong-nim were elected as alternate members of the party Central Committee Political Bureau.

As Comrade Ho Tam was transferred to another post, he was dismissed from the post as secretary of the party Central Committee, and Comrade Kim Yong-sun was elected as secretary of the party Central Committee in charge of international affairs.

Comrade (Kim Ik-hyon) was elected as member of the party Central Committee, and Comrade Kim Pil-hwan, Comrade (Kim Kil-yong), and Comrade (Kim Tok-sik) were elected as alternate members of the party Central Committee.

Communique Issued

SK2305160190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1543 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 23 (KCNA)—A communique on the 18th plenary meeting of the 6th Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was made public here today.

According to it, the plenary meeting was held on May 23.

The plenary meeting was presided over by the great leader of our party and our people Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Present there were members and alternate members of the party Central Committee and members of the central auditing commission of the party.

The meeting discussed "proposal of the party Central Committee on the state and government composition to be submitted to the deliberation of the first session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly."

It adopted relevant decisions.

An organisational question was discussed.

Comrades Choe Kwang and Han Song-yong were elected members of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee to fill the vacancies and Comrades Choe Tae-pok, Kim Chol-man and Choe Yong-nim were elected alternate members of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee to fill the vacancies.

Comrade Ho Tam, upon his transference to another post, was relieved of the post of the secretary of the party Central Committee and Comrade Kim Yong-sun was elected secretary in charge of international affairs of the party Central Committee.

Comrade Kim Ik-hyon was elected member and Comrades Kim Pil-hwan, Kim I-yong and Kim Kyok-sik alternate members of the party Central Committee to fill the vacancies.

Supreme People's Assembly Session Opens 24 May

SK2405004190 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0021 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] This morning the first session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the DPRK opened in the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

The great leader of our party and people Comrade Kim Il-song attended the meeting.

Newly elected deputies attended the meeting as well as observers, functionaries of the party, power organs, and administrative and economic organs, and social organizations, generals and officers of the Korean People's Army, and functionaries of the scientific, educational, cultural and art, public health, and press fields.

The speaker and deputy speakers of the SPA and the SPA deputy qualification screening committee were elected at the session.

The following agenda items were adopted at the session: 1) the election of the DPRK president; 2) the elections of DPRK leading state organs; 3) on the summing up of the execution of the DPRK budget for 1989 and the state budget for 1990.

The session entered into the discussion of the first agenda item.

The session continues.

Kim Il-song Elected President

SK2405012590 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0100 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has been elected DPRK president.

Today the First Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK has elected to high esteem the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the founder and leader of our party and the republic, DPRK president.

The session has solemnly declared at home and abroad this great national auspicious event of having elected the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song DPRK president according to the unanimous will and aspirations of the all people across the country. The reelection of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to high esteem as DPRK president constitutes our people's great glory and happiness.

At the historic moment when the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song was elected to high esteem as state president, all deputies and participants in the session, overflowing with boundlessly deep emotions and joy, thunderously shouted: Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song!

The election of the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song as DPRK president is an expression of all people's absolute support for and trust in the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song who early created the immortal chuche idea, has brilliantly pioneered the modern history of our fatherland with untiring and sleepless energetic revolutionary activities, has built a dignified and prospering socialist power in this land, and has enjoyed the boundless respect from the revolutionary people of the world as the tested and highly authoritative leader [noryonhago kwonwiui nopun yongdoja] of the international revolutionary movement.

The participants in the session were overflowing with resolve to uphold in high esteem the great Comrade Kim Il-song as the leader of our party, the state, and the people forever and to more staunchly fight to consummate the socialist cause under the party's leadership and expedite the realization of the historic cause of national reunification.

Core Party Leaders Attend

SK2405063790 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0400 GMT 24 May 90

[Excerpts] The First Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the DPRK opened at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on 24 May. [passage omitted]

The great leader of our party and our people Comrade Kim Il-song took the platform. [applause]

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK]; Comrade O Chin-u, member of the Political Bureau Presidium of the WPK Central Committee and minister of the People's Armed Forces, and other core members of the party and state including Comrade Yi Chong-ok; Comrade Pak Song-chol; Comrade Yon Hyong-muk; Comrade Kim Yong-nam; Comrade Choe Kwang; Comrade Kye Ung-tae; Comrade Han Song-yong; Comrade Ho Tam; Comrade Chon Pyong-ho; Comrade Kang Song-san; Comrade So Yun-sok; Comrade Hyon Mu-kwang; Comrade Choe Tae-pok; Comrade Kim Chol-man; Comrade Choe Yong-nim; Comrade Hong Song-nam; Comrade Kim Pok-sin; Comrade Kang Hui-won; Comrade Cho Se-ung and Comrade Hong Si-hak came to the rostrum. [passage omitted]

Agenda of Meeting Cited

SK2405040890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0400 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 24 (KCNA)—The first session of the ninth Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea opened here today.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song was present at the session.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il attended the session.

Also present were the newly elected deputies.

Following are the items of the agenda of the session:
1. Election of DPRK president
2. Election of DPRK state leadership organs
3. On the results of the fulfilment of the state budget for 1989 and on the state budget for 1990 of the DPRK.

Pak Song-chol Makes Opening Address

SK2405120490 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0400 GMT 24 May 90

[Opening address by Pak Song-chol, deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA), DPRK vice president and member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea, on the first day of the first session of the ninth SPA of the DPRK at Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on 24 May—recorded]

[Text] Comrade deputies: Today we are holding the first session of the ninth SPA of the DPRK, and we take great pride in having demonstrated the indestructible political and ideological unity and the united might of all the people, who have rallied around the party and the leader through the recent election of SPA deputies at a time when the movement of the great march of the hopeful 1990's is being vigorously conducted.

Since the election of deputies to the eighth SPA, our people have vigorously waged the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—upholding the banner of the chuche idea under the wise leadership of the party Central Committee headed by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, and they have achieved brilliant success in all domains of socialist construction. [applause]

Through the struggle to model the entire society on the chuche idea, the wholehearted unity of the party's entire membership and all the people, all of whom place the leader at the center, has been solidified more firmly than ever, and our revolution has advanced vigorously without fail along the chuche course.

Upholding the grand plan of great socialist construction laid out by our party, all the people have launched themselves into a heroic struggle, building one after another the great monumental creations that show our people's wisdom and our party's mettle throughout the country, successfully carrying out major construction projects of enormous scale, and thereby incomparably strengthening the might of the country and more highly demonstrating the dignity and honor of the Republic. [applause]

During the course of the rewarding struggle for the revolution and construction, our revolutionary government of workers and peasants has carried out more brilliantly its function and role as the programmatic weapon for socialist construction, and the superiority of our state and social system that embodies the chuche idea has been demonstrated even more highly.

Keeping pace with our sincere efforts for peaceful reunification based on the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity, the South Korean people's anti-U.S. struggle for independence and antifascist struggle for democratization have been accentuated, and a much more advantageous phase is opening in the prospects of the fatherland's reunification.

Because of the brilliant success attained in the revolution and construction and the independent and peace-loving external policy of our party and our Republic's government, the position of our Republic has been further enhanced and the international solidarity with our people's cause of the fatherland's reunification is being strengthened.

All the proud successes our people have attained in the revolutionary struggle and construction work under the banner of the Republic powerfully demonstrate the justness of the chuche-oriented revolutionary line, which our party consistently maintains, and the inexhaustible vitality of our country's socialist system. [applause]

Today our people consider it the highest honor and happiness that they live and carry on the revolution in the most superior chuche socialist system deeply rooted in our country, that they endlessly trust the government of the Republic that gives them the noble and rewarding life of independent people, and that they are waging a vigorous struggle, with overflowing confidence and optimism, to make the last decade of the 20th century the most glorious time in our country's history by rallying more firmly around the party and the leader, both of which uphold the revolutionary banner of the chuche idea.

This SPA will become an important turning point in the work to further strengthen our Republic's government, to better build socialism according to the demand of chuche, and to accelerate the historic cause of the fatherland's reunification, the long-cherished desire of the nation. [applause]

This SPA is attended by 670 of 687 SPA deputies who have been newly elected in the recent election of deputies of the Republic's supreme institution. Comrades, while sharing with you the conviction that this session will carry out its work satisfactorily with the active participation of all the comrade deputies and greatly contribute to the development of our revolution, I declare the first session of the ninth SPA open according to Article 78, Chapter 5 of the Socialist Constitution of the DPRK. [applause]

Yi Chong-ok Speaks

SK2405043290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0405 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 24 (KCNA)—Deputy Yi Chong-ok, authorize by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], made a speech on the election of the president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the first session of the 9th Supreme People's Assembly which opened here today.

He, authorized by the WPK Central Committee, notified the Supreme People's Assembly in session of the proposal of the WPK Central Committee to reelect as president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea respected Comrade Kim Il-song who is devoting all his life solely to the sovereignty, independence and prosperity of the country, to the victory of the Korean revolution and to the freedom and happiness of the working masses.

He said:

Respected Comrade Kim Il-song is the great leader who has brilliantly shaped the modern history of our country and ushered in a new era of the victory of an independent people, an era of national development and prosperity in the long history of our nation by wisely leading the struggle of our party and people for independence, sovereignty and socialism with his outstanding and tested leadership and tireless energetic revolutionary activities in the long period of over 60 years.

The respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song founded the scientific guiding idea of the Korean revolution, organized and led the heroic anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle and thus achieved the liberation of the nation and the independence of the country.

He is an ever-victorious iron-willed brilliant commander and genius of creation and construction who defeated two formidable imperialisms by building the working class party and rearing the revolutionary armed forces and performed the imperishable precious exploits before the country and people, the times and history, and the lodestar of national reunification and the sagacious leader of the nation.

Our people, who are deeply convinced that his leadership is immediately their happiness, prosperity of their country and victory of their revolution, cherish it as an unquestioned desire to invariably hold in high esteem the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song as president of the DPRK.

Our people will firmly defend the single-hearted unity of the whole party and the entire people on the basis of the chuche idea and faithfully fight along the road of the revolution led by the great Comrade Kim Il-song, holding him in high esteem forever as the leader of our party and state and the nation, he declared.

Yi Chong-ok, Pak Song-chol Reelected

SK2405042590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0412 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 24 (KCNA)—Comrades Yi Chong-ok and Pak Song-chol were reelected vice-presidents of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the first session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly which opened at the Mansudae Assembly Hall Today.

National Defense Commission Formed

SK2405042090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0413 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 24 (KCNA)—The National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was formed as follows at the first session of the ninth Supreme People's Assembly which opened at the Mansudae Assembly Hall today:

Chairman:	Comrade Kim Il-song
First Vice-Chairman:	Comrade Kim Chong-il
Vice-Chairmen:	Comrade O Chin-u
	Comrade Choe Kwang
Members:	Comrade Chon Pyong-ho
	Comrade Kim Chol-man
	Comrade Yi Ha-il
	Comrade Yi Ul-sol
	Comrade Chu To-il
	Comrade Kim Kwang-chin
	Comrade Kim Pong-yul

New Central People's Committee Elected

SK2405042390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0415 GMT [illegible] May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 24 (KCNA)—The first session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea which opened at the Mansudae Assembly Hall today elected members of the Central People's Committee as follows:

Comrade Kim Il-song
Comrade Pak Song-chol
Comrade Yi Chong-ok
Comrade Han Song-yong
Comrade Kang Song-san
Comrade So Yun-sok
Comrade Cho Se-ung
Comrade Hong Si-hak
Comrade Choe Mun-son
Comrade Kim Hak-pong
Comrade Kang Hyon-su
Comrade Pak Song-il
Comrade Yi Pong-kil
Comrade Yim Hyong-ku
Comrade Yom Ki-sun
Comrade Kim Ki-son
Comrade Chi Chang-ik (secretary)

Yon Hyong-muk Named Premier

SK2405043590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0425 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 24 (KCNA)—Comrade Yon Hyong-muk was reelected premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the first session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly which opened at the Mansudae Assembly Hall today.

Administration Council Members Noted

SK2405044790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0426 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 24 (KCNA)—Following are the members of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea made public at the first session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly which opened at the Mansudae Assembly Hall today:

Premier:	Yon Hyong-muk
Vice-premiers:	Kim-Yong-nam, Choe Yong-nim, Hong Song-nam, Kim Pok-sin, Kang Hui-won, Kim Yun-hyok, Kim Tal-hyon, Kim Hwan, Kim Chang-chu, and Chang Chol
Minister of foreign affairs:	Kim Yong-nam (concurrently vice-premier)
Minister of public security:	Paek Hak-nim
Chairman of the State Planning Commission:	Choe Yong-nim (concurrently vice-premier)
Chairman of the Light Industry Commission:	Kim Pok-sin (concurrently vice-premier)
Minister of chemical industry:	Kim Hwan (concurrently vice-premier)
Chairman of the External Economy Commission:	Kim Tal-hyon (concurrently vice-premier)
Chairman of the State Inspection Commission:	Yi Yong-mu
Chairman of the Transport Commission:	Yi Kil-song
Chairman of the Power Industry Commission:	Yi Chi-chan
Chairman of the Agricultural Commission:	Paek Pom-su
Chairman of the Fisheries Commission:	Choe Pok-yon
Chairman of the State Construction Commission:	Kim Ung-sang
Chairman of the Commission of Public Welfare:	Kong Chin-tae
Chairman of the State Commission of Science and Technology:	Yi Cha-pang
Chairman of the Commission of Electronics and Automation Industry:	Paek Se-yun
Minister of metal industry:	Choe Man-hyon
Minister of machine-building industry:	Kye Hyong-sun
Minister of mining industry:	Kim Pil-hwan
Minister of coal industry:	Kim I-yong
Minister of natural resources development:	Kim Se-yong
Minister of ship-building industry:	Yi Sok
Minister of construction:	Cho Chol-chun
Minister of building-materials industry:	Chu Yong-hun
Minister of forestry:	Kim Chae-yul
Minister of local industry:	Kim Song-ku
Minister of atomic energy industry:	Choe Hak-kun
Minister of city management:	Yi Chol-pong
Minister of post and tele-communications:	Kim Chang-ho
Minister of labour administration:	Yi Chae-yun
Minister of finance:	Yun Ki-chong
Chairman of the Education Commission:	Choe Ki-yong
Minister of culture and art:	Chang Chol (concurrently vice-premier)
Minister of public health:	Yi Chong-yul
Minister of railways:	Pak Yong-sok
Minister of marine transport:	O Song-yol
Minister of foreign trade:	Kim Tal-hyon (concurrently chairman of the External Economy Commission)

Minister of external economic affairs:	Chong Song-nam
Minister of commerce:	Han Chang-kun
President of the Academy of Sciences:	Kim Kyong-pong
Chairman of the State Sports Commission:	Kim Yu-sun
President of the Central Bank:	Chong Song-taek
Director of the Central Statistics Bureau:	Sin Kyong-sik
General Director of the Central Materials Supply Association:	Chae Kyu-pin
Director of the Secretariat of the Administration Council:	Chong Mun-san

Kim Il-song Policy Speech Reviewed

SK2405054090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0437 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 24 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea delivered a policy speech "Let Us Bring the Advantages of Socialism in Our Country Into Full Play" at the first session of the ninth Supreme People's Assembly today.

President Kim Il-song in the first part of his speech elaborated on the advantages of our socialist system, the greatest achievement made by our people in their struggle to realize Chajusong.

Noting that our socialism is a man-centred socialism, the embodiment of the chuche idea, he said:

The principal characteristic of our society lies in the fact that it is a truly people-orientated society of which the popular masses are the genuine masters and in which everything serves the masses.

The advantages of our socialist system find clear expression in our people's happy and worthwhile lives under socialism.

Everyone of our people is now leading a political life, a cultural life and an economic life which accord with man's intrinsic desire as social being and with socialist ideals.

In our country everyone is granted the rights to be provided with food, clothing and housing by the state and society and receives the necessary conditions from them in practice.

In the second part of his speech, President Kim Il-song outlined the tasks to give full play to the advantages of our socialism. Stem of Korea. [paragraph as received]

He said:

The government of the republic must accelerate the building of socialism by holding fast to our party's general line of stepping up the ideological, technical and cultural revolutions while strengthening the people's state power and steadily enhancing its functions and role.

We must continue with the revolution even after the establishment of the socialist system and occupy the ideological and material fortresses, the major strategic objectives for building socialism and communism.

The government of the Republic must adhere to and fully implement the line of making the national economy chuche-orientated, modern and scientifically-based, the line which is the basic strategy of our party in socialist economic construction.

Noting that socialist democracy must be fully implemented in state activity, President Kim Il-song said:

Our socialist democracy is a politics of the people themselves which enables the people to hold the position of masters and fulfil their role as masters; it is the best of all democratic politics that makes it possible to combine the Chajusong of individuals closely with that of the collective and realize both satisfactorily.

The imperialists are now talking loudly about "democracy" claiming "freedom" and "human rights," but this is a mere deception.

In order to champion and realize the Chajusong of the popular masses it is necessary to foil completely the imperialists in their anti-socialist schemes which are going under the mask of "democracy" and "defence of human rights."

In the third part of his speech, President Kim Il-song stressed the need to continue to wage a vigorous struggle to establish the democratic confederal republic of Koryo and thus reunify the country.

He said:

First, tension on the Korean peninsula must be eased and peaceful climate for the country's reunification be created.

For the relaxation of tension and for secure peace, the North and South must adopt a nonaggression declaration guaranteeing that both sides refrain from invading each other; the DPRK and the United States must sign a peace agreement; armed forces in the North and the South must be reduced drastically and nuclear weapons and foreign troops be withdrawn from South Korea.

The withdrawal of the U.S. forces from South Korea will accord with the trend of the times towards peace and detente and also with the interests of the American people.

If the United States cannot withdraw all her troops from South Korea at once, she will be able to do so by stages.

Second, the barrier of division must be removed and free travel and full-scale open door effected between the North and the South.

We will warmly welcome the visit to the North by broad sections of people and social figures from different quarters in South Korea, give a hearty welcome to our fellow countrymen from the South with a feeling of kinship and ensure their personal safety thoroughly. We will also allow the people in the North to visit the South without any restraint and provide them with every convenience.

Third, the North and the South must develop foreign relations on the principle of creating an international climate favourable to the self-determined, peaceful reunification of the country.

In the international arena the North and the South must avoid confrontation and competition which impair national dignity and allow foreign forces to profit from such a situation. They must team up with each other to defend common national interests and bring honour to the nation.

Those countries which are concerned about the Korean question must also feel their responsibility for the continuing tragedy of division in Korea and make a due contribution to finding a solution to the Korean question.

From a desire to put an end to national division and achieve reunification, the government of our republic has always maintained that Korea must enter the UN as a unified country. If the North and the South enter the UN separately, it will legalize the division of Korea in the international arena and create another obstacle and difficulty to national reunification. If the North and the South are to join the UN before Korea's reunification is achieved, they must not hold two separate seats but enter it jointly as one member in favour of the reunification cause.

Fourth, we must develop the dialogue for national reunification.

The government of the Republic will make every possible effort to see that the North-South dialogue, now in a state of interruption, is resumed and produce good results, and to expand and develop the dialogue for Korea's reunification in different forms.

Fifth, a nationwide united front for the country's reunification must be formed.

All the groups and organisations which are fighting for national reunification must cooperate and unite with one another and form a nationwide united front comprising all political parties, social and other organisations and public figures from different strata of the North, the South and abroad.

In the fourth part of his speech, President Kim Il-song said that at present, sharp confrontation and struggle between socialism and imperialism and between progress and reaction are continuing on the international arena.

He continued:

The imperialists are cheering themselves while clamouring for the "crisis of socialism", but this is ridiculous. It is imperialism and none other that is now suffering from an incurable malady. The imperialists themselves are falling into an irretrievable crisis. Imperialism whose days are numbered cannot decide the people's destiny nor can it reverse the current of history.

Since the way to socialism is an untrodden path, socialism may run across unexpected obstacles in its progress and suffer temporary setbacks. Also the way of building socialism has to be improved steadily in accordance with the changing and developing reality. When shortcomings have been revealed in building socialism, they must be corrected without hesitation by drawing appropriate lessons from them.

All problems arising in the building of socialism must always be solved on the basis of socialist theories, on the principle of bringing the advantages of socialism into play and by giving reins to the inexhaustible creativity of the popular masses, the subject of the revolution. When the situation is complex and the reactionary offensive is stepped up, the revolutionary people must hold fast to the revolutionary principle and advance, holding higher the banner of socialism.

The government of our Republic will, in the future, too, consistently follow its foreign policy of independence, peace and friendship.

In order to prevent war and safeguard peace, disarmament must be realized, nuclear weapons be completely abolished, and aggressive troops and military bases in other countries be withdrawn from there.

President Kim Il-song also stressed the need to intensify the struggle for independence prevailing throughout the world.

'Full Text' of Kim Il-song Speech

SK2405130090 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0600 GMT 24 May 90

["Full text" of President Kim Il-song's policy speech to the first session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on 24 May 1990: "Let Us Bring the Advantages of Socialism in Our Country Into Full Play"]

[Text] Comrade deputies:

The election to the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has been held successfully amid a high political enthusiasm and with the active participation of all the people in an atmosphere of upswing in which the grand march of the 1990's is vigorously under way.

Through this election we have strengthened the people's government like a rock and powerfully demonstrated the political and ideological unity of our people who are held together closely behind the Workers Party of Korea and the government of our republic.

You, comrade deputies, representing the will of all the people, have placed high confidence in me by entrusting me with continued leadership of the new government of the republic as its president. For this trust I express my heartfelt gratitude to you.

The new government of the Republic will serve the popular masses more faithfully by performing its noble duties and fulfilling the people's high expectations. It will make every effort to achieve the victory of the cause of socialism and the independent, peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

Comrades:

The socialist system in our country is the greatest achievement made by our people in their struggle to realize chajusong under the correct leadership of the Workers Party of Korea and the government of the Republic.

Our people are proud of the fact that they have chosen the path to socialism from their own conviction and have been building socialism successfully by their own efforts.

Our socialism is, in short, a man-centered socialism, the embodiment of the chuche idea. The principal characteristic of our society lies in the fact that it is a truly people-orientated society of which the popular masses are the genuine masters and in which everything serves the masses.

The process of building socialism by the application of the chuche idea can be described as the process of strengthening the subject of the revolution and of transforming all areas of society to meet the requirements of chuche, in other words, the process of thoroughly establishing chuche.

Strengthening the subject of the revolution is the fundamental question in the struggle for socialism. Unless they are solidly prepared as the subject of the revolution, the popular masses will be unable to emerge victorious in the struggle for political power; unless the subject is consolidated steadily, it will be impossible to build a socialist society and bring its advantages into play.

In carrying out the revolution and constructive undertakings, we have always put preferential efforts into the consolidation of the subject. In keeping with the development of the revolution and the constructive efforts onto higher stages, we have promoted the work of strengthening the subject in depth.

By imbuing the popular masses with the chuche idea, the guiding ideology of our revolution, we have thoroughly established chuche in ideology, cemented the party and united all the people closely behind the party, so that the revolutionary ranks have been welded into a sociopolitical organism. Today in our country the seasoned Workers Party of Korea stands firmly at the center of the revolutionary ranks, and the masses of the people who have withstood all trials, sharing their destiny with the party even when poised between life and death during the long-drawn-out revolutionary struggle, are solidly united around the party in a single purpose and mind. The fact that we have given definite priority to the work of strengthening the subject of the revolution and thus fortified the politico-ideological unity of the popular masses and helped them to fulfil their responsibility and role as befitting masters has been the cardinal factor for success in the socialist revolution and in the building of socialism.

Transforming all areas of society creatively to meet the desire for independence of the popular masses, the subject of the revolution, is the basic direction in which to build a man-centered socialism. In the whole course of building socialism, our party and the government of our Republic have consistently maintained the independent and creative stands and carried through the line of independence, self-sufficiency and self-reliant defence.

We have practiced independent politics which safeguards and realizes political chajusong for the popular masses, the masters of society, and have constructed an economy which can stand on its feet, meeting the people's material needs on its own. We have also prepared self-reliant defense forces capable of reliably protecting the security of the country and the revolutionary achievements. As a result of the firm establishment of political independence, economic self-sufficiency and self-reliant national defense, our country has become a chuche-orientated, independent socialist country which continues to develop in all spheres, free from subjugation to and dependence on others.

The strong, independent subject of our revolution which is based on the unbreakable ideological and purposeful unity between the party and the popular masses, and its steady consolidation and development on the powerful basis of independence, self-sufficiency and self-reliant defense, constitute the source of the might and indestructibility of the socialist system in our country as well as a sure guarantee for accomplishing the socialist cause without wavering in whatever difficulty and complexity.

The advantages of our socialist system find clear expression in our people's happy and worthwhile lives under socialism.

A socialist life is an independent and creative life of the popular masses as the masters of the state and society; it is a collectivist life of the people who share weal and woe, helping each other and leading each other forward. Every one of our people is now leading a political life, a cultural life and an economic life which accord with man's intrinsic desire as social being and with socialist ideals.

An economic life constitutes the basis of social life. The socialist economic life must be sound, contributing to the fulfilment of the people's desire for independence and to the provision of their creative activities; it must be equitable for everybody, providing him with equal happiness without gaps between the rich and the poor.

In our country everyone is granted the rights to be provided with food, clothing and housing by the state and society and receives the necessary conditions from them in practice. All the working people have steady jobs and participate in creative work for the good of the society and themselves according to their abilities. They not only receive distribution according to the results of their work, but are granted a great deal of benefits by the people-orientated measures of the state. Although they cannot say that they are rich, our people are now free from the worries of livelihood. Whether they are workers, farmers, or office workers, whether they live in urban or rural communities, they all enjoy an equally happy life. In our country, the material wealth created by the people is devoted totally to the promotion of their own well-being, and their material living standard steadily rises as the building of socialism makes progress.

A man's dignity and value as a social being finds the clearest expression in his political and cultural lives. People can claim that they live really like man only when they lead a highly valuable political life and a rich cultural life in addition to a decent economic life.

Through their cultural life, people develop their consciousness of independence and creative abilities and acquire ennobling mental and moral qualities and realize various cultural and emotional requirements. The essential characteristic of the socialist cultural life which is distinguished from the capitalist cultural life that degenerates people and poisons them with maladies lies in the fact that it enables people to meet their intrinsic desire for continuous mental and physical development and encourages all of them to create and enjoy culture.

Under the system of free and compulsory education in our country, everyone, with a full educational right and freedom, studies all his life, developing himself into a new-type man of versatile abilities; thanks to the system of free medical care and various other policies for the people, he enjoys good health and a happy, long life. Our people fully display their resourcefulness and talents in creating and developing the socialist culture and arts and enjoy rich cultural and emotional lives as much as they like. With noble moral qualities as independent beings, all our people live in harmony. Free from all social evils, they lead a hope-filled life and are struggling, being proud of their lives and convinced of a brighter future.

The political life which provides the people with genuine political freedom and rights as masters of the state and society, guarantees their valuable socio-political integrity and enables them to add lustre to it is the most important of all their activities. Through their socialist political life, the people realize their political chajusong, weld individual lives into the life of the community and thus become immortal by being held in trust and being loved by the community.

Today our people as genuine masters of the government participate freely in state administration and socio-political activities. Belonging to a particular socio-political organization, every one of them leads a politico-organizational life. Through their political life, our people participate like masters in the making of party and state policies and in their implementation and maintain inseparable ties with the socio-political organism that centers on the party. In our country, the political life is a daily routine for every member of the society. Our people's political life is, indeed, the life of the highest value for people as social beings who regard chajusong as their lifeblood. It is the most precious and worthwhile life and nothing can be compared with it.

Our people's socialist life will be more prosperous as long as there are the leadership of our party and the government of the Republic that serves the people.

The struggle for socialism in our country has been an arduous struggle waged in the difficult and complex situation in which the country is divided and in which we are in direct confrontation with U.S. imperialism, the ringleader of world imperialism. Our people have overcome many bitter trials and shed a lot of sweat and blood in their struggle for socialism, but not in vain. They have become complete masters of their destiny and laid lasting, unshakable foundations of socialism on this land. There may be difficulties and trials in our people's future struggle for the accomplishment of the socialist cause, and the enemy will continue with his obstructive moves. No difficulty and trial and no obstructive scheme of the enemy, however, will ever be able to dampen our people's revolutionary conviction or check our advance.

The greatness of the chuche idea, the guiding ideology of our party, the unconquerableness of our people who have established chuche, and the advantages of our socialist system which is the embodiment of the chuche idea—these are the summary of our people's struggle for socialism, and in them our people take great pride and from them they derive their confidence in a brighter future.

Comrades:

Today we are faced with an honorble task of attaining a new, higher peak of socialism by pressing ahead with the revolution and construction, and of bringing the advantages of socialism in our country into full play.

The government of the Republic must accelerate the building of socialism by holding fast to our party's general line of stepping up the ideological, technical and cultural revolutions while strengthening the people's state power and steadily enhancing its functions and role.

In order to accomplish the cause of socialism and communism, we must continue with the revolution even after the establishment of the socialist system and occupy the ideological and material fortresses, the major strategic objectives for building socialism and communism. We must make strenuous efforts to capture the two fortresses of communism in the whole course of building socialism and communism, and give priority to the struggle to capture the ideological fortress.

The need to secure the material fortress for building a communist society is clear to everybody. But the attainment of this objective alone will be unable to make a communist society a reality. In essence, this is an effort to prepare objective conditions for a communist society, but the work of security the ideological fortress is an undertaking to transform people, the masters of society, in a communist way, in other words, to prepare the subject of a communist society. The work of capturing the ideological fortress constitutes the most important content of building communism, and the outcome of socialist and communist construction depends, after all, on how this work is carried out.

We must direct our efforts preferentially to the work of securing the ideological fortress and develop all members of society into people of a communist type who have acquired a high level of ideological consciousness of independence and creative ability and must make the whole of society a communist collective based on comradeship.

In order to develop all members of society into people of a communist type, we must speed up the ideological and cultural revolutions and transform the whole of society in a revolutionary manner and assimilate it to the working class and to the intelligentsia.

From the point of view of man's transformation, the process of building socialism and communism can be described as the process of making all members of society revolutionary, and assimilating them to the working class and to the intelligentsia. It is a law-governed process that with social progress all working people are assimilated to the working class in terms of their socio-economic positions and to the intelligentsia in terms of their cultural and technological levels. Spurring on their revolutionary transformation and their assimilation to the working class and to the intelligentsia so as to make everyone an intellectual who has been assimilated to the working class and a member of the working class who has been assimilated to the intelligentsia is exactly the basic orientation of man's transformation that must be carried out for the building of socialism and communism.

The most important task in the revolutionary transformation of all social members and in their assimilation to the working class is to imbue them with the chuche idea.

The chuche idea is a genuine communist ideology which advocates man's chajusong thoroughly and shows the scientific way of realizing his chajusong completely. It clearly elucidates the correct methods of national liberation, class liberation and man's emancipation which are posed by our times. It is only when they are solidly equipped with the chuche idea that people can acquire the ideological and mental qualities befitting the masters of socialist and communist society and can perform their responsibility and role as masters of the world and their own destiny.

We must develop education in the chuche idea in depth so that all the party members and other working people are equipped strongly with the chuche-orientated revolutionary outlook on the world, have unshakable belief in the validity and universality of the chuche idea and in the advantages of our socialism, the embodiment of the chuche idea, and fight to the end for the triumph of the socialist cause without vacillation in whatever wind that may blow.

Assimilating the whole of society to the intelligentsia is an important strategic task for developing all members of society into communist-type people who have a high level of creative ability and for successfully speeding up the building of socialism and communism on the strength of science and technology.

Ever since we started building a new society, we, having recognized intellectuals as a major component of our revolutionary forces, have followed the correct intellectual policy of giving them revolutionary education and encouraging them to display all their creative enthusiasm and talents. In building socialism, we have worked hard to make the whole of society intellectual while working for its revolutionary transformation and assimilation to the working class.

The principal matter in making the whole of society intellectual is to develop education.

By implementing the chuche idea we have established an excellent educational system by which all our people have access to education. We must thoroughly implement the theses on socialist education, improve the quality of public education and the training of our cadres and bring the advantages of our socialist education system into full play. In the field of general education universal 11-year compulsory education should be provided satisfactorily by improving the qualifications of the teachers and the content and methods of teaching; and in the field of higher education a larger number of well-qualified and useful technicians and specialists should be produced by directing great efforts to the training of scientists and technicians.

"Study is the first and foremost task of revolutionaries"—this is a motto which we have held up since the days of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle. The whole of society must acquire the revolutionary habit of studying while working and of working while studying so that everyone continues to improve his ideological level as well as his cultural and technical qualifications.

The subject in the building of socialism and communism is not individuals but the socio-political collective which is linked as comrades on the principle of collectivism. It is only when they are closely linked organizationally and ideologically around the party that the popular masses can become an invincible subject of the revolution and promote the building of socialism and communism with success.

The main thing in strengthening the subject of the revolution is to build up the party's strength and tighten the inseparable ties between the party and the masses. In keeping with progress in the building of socialism, we must strengthen still further the unity and cohesion of our party based on the chuche idea and unite the masses more firmly behind the party so that all the people will share the same destiny with the party to the end in the struggle for the victory of the cause of socialism.

Increasing socialist economic construction to capture the material fortress of communism is a very important task now facing our people.

It is only when the productive forces are developed quickly and the production of material wealth is increased through the acceleration of socialist economic construction that strong material and technical foundations of socialism and communism will be laid, that the material and cultural standards of the people improved to meet the requirements of socialism and that the superiority of the socialist system displayed to the full.

The government of the Republic must adhere to and fully implement the line of making the national economy chuche-orientated, modern and scientifically-based the line which is the basic strategy of our party in socialist economic construction.

The socialist independent national economy which we have built through self-reliance and hard working is mighty and it serves as a strong foundation for the happy socialist life of our people and for the independent development of our country. We must give priority to the efforts to make the existing economic foundations prove their worth by ensuring balance between economic sectors and maintaining a steady and high rate of production in all sectors and, at the same time, must work hard to attain the ambitious goals of the Third Seven-Year Plan.

We must quickly develop those economic sectors which lead the other sectors, as required by the law of socialist economic development, and develop all economic sectors in a balanced way. In particular, we must concentrate investments on the mining and power industries and on transport to modernize these branches in every possible way and increase production and transport capacities radically.

In order to ensure that our independent national economy makes a more effective contribution to the improvement of the people's living standard, we must make great efforts to develop light industry and agriculture.

The main task of light industry is to make its factories more up-to-date and operate them at full capacity and thus increase the production of consumer goods to the maximum. The officials in charge of light industry must adopt positive measures to ensure the supply of raw and other materials by making full use of every possibility, and those in charge of the chemical industry must ensure in a responsible manner the production of vinalon and other kinds of chemical fiber, synthetic resin, and elementary chemical goods. The officials and working people in the field of light industry must develop a zealous campaign to improve the quality of their products by displaying loyalty to their fellow people and a high sense of responsibility.

The agricultural sector must work hard to complete the tasks of the technical revolution set forth in the socialist rural theses and thus give full play to the advantages of the socialist agricultural system in our country. A major potential for increasing agricultural production in our country is to make farming more intensive and raise the per-unit-area yields. The agricultural sector should make effective use of our excellent irrigation facilities built by exerting nationwide efforts and grow crops in a scientific way to meet the requirements of the chuche farming method, and thus bring about a new upsurge in agricultural production.

Large numbers of houses should be built in Pyongyang and other cities and rural communities and the central heating system and gas supply should be introduced even into rural villages so as to provide our people with more modern amenities.

A consistent policy of the government of our Republic is to develop its economic relations with foreign countries. We should expand and develop foreign trade by widely exploring the sources of exportable goods in various branches of the national economy and improving the quality of exports, and step up economic and technical cooperation with many countries.

Promoting the technical revolution is a decisive guarantee for succeeding in socialist economic construction.

It can be said that socialist economic construction is, in effect, a technical revolution. Without giving priority to the progress of technology it will be impossible to free the working people from difficult and arduous labor, make effective use of the nation's resources, further the independence of the national economy or to develop the national economy quickly.

In order to accelerate the technical revolution the officials must have a correct attitude towards the technical revolution and combat strongly the practices of neglecting technical progress occupying oneself only with production at the moment. All officials should adhere to the viewpoint that carrying out the technical revolution is vital to socialist economic construction and deal with all economic activities, always attaching prime importance to the matter of technical progress, and work hard for scientific and technological progress in our country and for the technical innovation of the national economy.

We must quickly develop science and technology in our country as required by practice in socialist construction and in conformity with the world trend of science and technology and modernize the national economy and put it on a scientific basis in every possible way by making great efforts for the development of the machine, electronics and automation industries. All sectors of the national economy should effect a continuous upsurge in production by dynamically conducting a mass technical innovation campaign, and ensure that the technical revolution makes progress as a creative movement of the people themselves.

For success in socialist economic construction guidance of the economy and enterprise management should be improved continually.

Our party has set the principles of economic management that conform to the intrinsic requirements of socialist society and established the Taean work sytem, a most scientific and reasonable system of economic management. Officials in charge of economic affairs must fully support and implement the chuche-motivated principles of economic management by displaying a noble revolutionary spirit with a firm belief in our party's policy. They must direct production and manage enterprises in a responsible manner as required by the Taean work system.

In economic management the work of planning in particular should be improved and rigid discipline and order should be established so that all sectors and all units carry out national economic plans without fail. Economic officials should study party policy deeply and acquire the knowledge of economic management so as to improve their level of enterprise management steadily as required by the objective economic laws and the developing reality.

The government of our Republic is a genuine people's state power which serves the people. If the government of the Republic is to fulfill its honorable mission as a people's state power, it must fully implement socialist democracy in state activity.

Our socialist democracy is a politics of the people themselves which enables the people to hold the position of masters and fulfill their role as masters; it is the best of all democratic politics that makes it possible to combine the chajusong of individuals closely with that of the collective and realize both satisfactorily. In our country everyone exercizes equal and independent rights as the genuine master of the state and society, and all the people develop their creative wisdom and talent helping and leading one another forward as comrades on the principle of "one for all and all for one."

The imperialists are now talking loudly about "democracy" claiming "freedom" and "human rights," but this is a mere deception. There cannot be equality between the privileged rich who have unlimited power and revel in luxury and glory and the working masses who suffer from unemployment and poverty; it is impossible to talk about genuine freedom and human rights in imperialist countries where reactionary ideas and immorality and depravity are fostered and all manner of social evils are rampant. The imperialists are making people the slaves of money, mental cripples and political illiterates; all kinds of corruption widespread in capitalist society are the product of the anti-popular, anti-democratic politics pursued by the imperialists. In the imperialist countries where a handful of privileged sections monopolize state power and means of production as well as all the ideological and cultural means, there can be no genuine democracy which guarantees the popular masses the position and role as masters.

In order to champion and realize the chajusong of the popular masses it is necessary to foil completely the imperialists in their anti-socialist schemes which are going under the mask of "democracy" and "defense of human rights." The socialist government which serves the people must naturally protect the people from the infiltration of unsound ideas and culture, combat all manner of practices detrimental to the interests of the people and the cause of socialism and resolutely champion the masses' desire for independence and their common interests.

The government of our Republic must fight uncompromisingly against the anti-popular, anti-socialist moves of the imperialists and the enemy of the people, and bring socialist democracy into full play in all fields of social life.

Socialist democracy is guaranteed by the socialist system. We must strengthen the socialist system still further and develop it continually so as to give free rein to the chajusong and creativity of the people in all fields of politics, the economy and culture. In consolidating the socialist system and in the practice of socialist democracy it is important to perfect the legal system and ensure that the socialist laws are strictly observed. On the basis of the success in socialist construction, we must enact and improve legislation and regulations until they are perfect so that socialist democracy is ensured more effectively. We must see that all the people observe state laws willingly with a high degree of law-abiding spirit.

In order to effect socialist democracy to the fullest extent and bring the advantages of the socialist system into full play, we must carry through the revolutionary mass line while ensuring party leadership.

Enhancing the leadership role of the party and implementing the mass line makes it possible to champion and meet the fundamental desires and interests of the people consistently in accordance with the correct strategy and tactics and promote the revolution and construction with success by preventing bureaucracy and subjectivism and giving full play to the people's creativity. Ensuring party leadership and implementing the revolutionary mass line is a fundamental principle to which we must adhere in the building of socialism and communism.

People's government organs at all levels must conduct all their activities wholeheartedly supporting the party's leadership and relying on its policies and continue to improve their work system and work methods by implementing the revolutionary mass line.

The chongsanri spirit and chongsanri method created by our party are the most revolutionary and democratic principles of mass guidance and work method which correctly combine the party's leadership with the revolutionary mass line. The officials of government organs must always mix with the masses as required by the chongsanri spirit and chongsanri method and conduct intensive political work to unite the people closely behind the party and implement the party's policies by enlisting the efforts and resourcefulness of the masses. They must have warm love for the people and the spirit of devoted service for them. They must be truly faithful workers and servants of the people and devote themselves totally for the people, sharing weal and woe with them.

Making continuous innovations and uninterrupted advance without being carried away by the victory is the revolutionary spirit of our people of which they are proud. The goal of our struggle is clear and we have a correct line and methods of carrying the cause of socialism to completion. All the people must display a high revolutionary spirit and mass heroism and press ahead with the grand march to bring about a new turn in socialist construction.

Comrades:

Achieving the independent, peaceful reunification of the country is the most pressing task for the government of our Republic and the entire Korean nation.

The annals of our nation since the division of the country are the annals of nationwide struggle to restore the severed national ties and to achieve the country's reunification. In the course of this strenuous struggle the common reunification programme of the nation has been laid down and the reunification movement has become nationwide.

The three principles of independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity agreed upon and made public at home and abroad jointly by the North and the South are a great reunification program which clearly shows the way to reunify the country by incorporating the resourcefulness and will of the whole nation. The proposal for founding a democratic confederal republic of Koryo put forward by the government of our Republic on the basis of these three principles is the most reasonable and realistic reunification proposal which makes it possible to reunify the country independently and peacefully as well as impartially without one side conquering the other or being conquered, in the circumstances in which different ideologies and systems exist in the North and the South. This proposal envisages that our country, after reunification, will not become a satellite of any other country but will develop into a neutral nation which will not join any political and military alliance or bloc. Therefore, it not only meets all Koreans' desire for independence but also accords with the wishes of the peoples of the neighboring countries and the peace-loving people throughout the world.

The government of our Republic and all the Korean people must, under the banner of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity, continue to wage a vigorous struggle to establish the DCRK [democratic confederal republic of Koryo] and thus reunify the country.

Ending the tragedy of national division and reunifying the country is the pressing and vital desire of our nation as well as the challenge of our times made by the trend of history toward independence.

Today the South Korean people, despite continued harsh suppression, have come out in the sacred struggle to achieve national sovereignty and reunification, holding high the slogan of anti-U.S. independence, anti-fascist democracy, and national reunification. They are fighting bravely, unafraid of any sacrifice. The unyielding, just struggle of the South Korean youths and students and other people from all walks of life clearly demonstrate our nation's high spirit of independence and its unbreakable will to reunify the country. This is arousing a strong, positive response from the progressive people of the world.

Obstructive maneuvres of those at home and abroad who try to keep the country divided are still continuing, but the reunification movement is gaining momentum on a nationwide scale with the passage of time.

For the cause of national reunification to be achieved as soon as possible in keeping with the pressing desire of the entire nation, correct solutions must be found to the following issues:

First, tension on the Korean peninsula must be eased and peaceful climate for the country's reunification be created.

Easing tension and ensuring peace on the Korean peninsula is the first and foremost task for reunifying our country peacefully.

For the relaxation of tension and for secure peace, the North and South must adopt a nonaggression declaration guaranteeing that both sides refrain from invading each other; the DPRK and the United States must sign a peace agreement; armed forces in the North and the South must be reduced drastically and nuclear weapons and foreign troops be withdrawn from South Korea.

The government of our Republic has maintained that the North and the South must reduce their armed forces by stages to less than 100,000 troops respectively and that, accordingly, nuclear weapons and the U.S. troops must be withdrawn from South Korea.

Since we have proposed a sharp reduction of the North-South armed forces, from a sincere desire for a peaceful settlement of the question of Korea's reunification, and since the withdrawal of foreign troops is a world trend, there is no reason why the U.S. Armed Forces should remain in South Korea. The withdrawal of the U.S. Forces from South Korea will accord with the trend of the times towards peace and detente and also with the interests of the American people.

The earlier the U.S. Forces leave South Korea, the sooner Korea will be reunified. This will be welcomed by our people and the peaceloving people all over the world. If the United States cannot withdraw all her troops from South Korea at once, she will be able to do so by stages.

Second, the barrier of division must be removed and free travel and full-scale open door effected between the North and the South.

Removing the barrier that divides the territory and the nation and ensuring free travel and full-scale open door between the North and South are the fundamental conditions for achieving national reconciliation and unity and for reunifying the country. It is only when the barrier of division is pulled down and the fellow countrymen freely travel North and South, meet each other to share the feelings of brotherly love and see with their own eyes realities in the North and South that they can strengthen their will to reunify the beautiful land of three thousand ri which is artificially divided and to shape a bright future of the country and commit themselves to the reunification movement with greater energy.

We will warmly welcome the visit to the North by broad sections of people and social figures from different quarters in South Korea, give a hearty welcome to our fellow countrymen from the South with a feeling of kinship and ensure their personal safety thoroughly. We will also allow the people in the North to visit the South without any restraint and provide them with every convenience.

The South Korean authorities are now claiming that they welcome free travel and full-scale open door, but they are preventing the South Korean people and social figures from different sections from visiting the North and are punishing as criminals those who have been to the North with a noble desire for reunification. If the South Korean authorities really wish to help toward national reconciliation and the country's reunification, they must begin with pulling down the concrete barrier they themselves have built, abolish evil laws which hinder contact and reunion for national reunification and must take practical measures to effect free travel and full-scale open door.

Third, the North and the South must develop foreign relations on the principle of creating an international climate favourable to the self-determined, peaceful reunification of the country.

The Korean question is closely linked with international relations in history. The division of Korea was caused by international relations and the delay of Korea's reunification is also due to the continuing interference and obstructive maneuvres by foreign forces. The way the North and the South develop international relations and the stand and attitude taken by the countries concerned toward the Korean question are important matters of principle in finding a solution to the question of Korea's reunification.

In their foreign relations the North and the South must always attach prime importance to the common interests of the nation and develop these relations so as to create a favourable international climate for preventing the perpetuation of national division and bringing national reunification sooner. In the international arena the North and the South must avoid confrontation and competition which impair national dignity and allow foreign forces to profit from such a situation. They must team up with each other to defend common national interests and bring honor to the nation.

Those countries which are concerned about the Korean question must also feel their responsibility for the continuing tragedy of division in Korea and make a due contribution to finding a solution to the Korean question. The United States, as a country which is directly responsible for the Korean question, must play a positive role in realizing Korea's reunification and other countries concerned, too, must not follow the divisive policy of the United States or be implicated in it, but maintain the principled attitude which is helpful to the reunification of Korea.

The fact that Japan is now obstructing the reunification of Korea following the United States shows that she does not repent of the crimes she committed against our nation in the past and that she is repeating her past mistake in approaching the Korean question. We must sharpen our vigilance against the revival and the wild reinvasion scheme of the Japanese militarists who imposed innumerable misfortunes and disasters on the Koreans and the peoples of many other Asian countries. The UN whose mission it is to safeguard peace and justice must help to settle the Korean question peaqefully and impartially. It should not allow itself to be used to delay the reunification of Korea. From a desire to put an end to national division and achieve reunification, the government of our Republic has always maintained that Korea must enter the UN as a unified country. If the North and the South enter the UN separately, it will legalize the division of Korea in the international arena and create another obstacle and difficulty to national reunification. If the North and the South are to join the UN before Korea's reunification is achieved, they must not hold two separate seats but enter it jointly as one member in favor of the reunification cause.

Fourth, we must develop the dialogue for national reunification.

The only way to settle the national reunification question peacefully by incorporating the will of the whole nation is to develop the dialogue. The whole process of the dialogue which has been held between the North and the South shows that the dialogue cannot be successful only by the efforts of any one side and that it is only when both sides make joint and sincere efforts that it will produce a good result.

The dialogue between the North and the South must be one not for maintaining division, but for finding a practical solution to the reunification question. It must not be a dialogue which reflects only the will of the government authorities or any specially limited sections, but a dialogue of the whole nation which provides a democratic representation of the will of all political parties, social organisations and people from all social strata. Both parties to the dialogue must approach the dialogue with a sincere attitude to settle the reunification question of the country by uniting and cooperating with each other. They must refrain from clouding the atmosphere of the dialogue or laying an artificial obstacle to it.

The government of the Republic will make every possible effort to see that the North-South dialogue, now in a state of interruption is resumed and produce good results, and to expand and develop the dialogue for Korea's reunification in different forms.

Fifth, a nationwide united front for the fatherland's reunification must be formed.

The cause of national reunification is the cause of the entire nation to realise its chajusong and the subject of national reunification is all the Korean people. Every Korean, whether he or she lives in the North, in the South or abroad and whether he or she is a worker, peasant, student, statesman, businessman, a man of culture, or a religious man—all of them have the noble national duty to contribute all their energy and intelligence to the cause of national reunification as befitting the master of reunification.

The success of the cause of national reunification depends on how our compatriots in the North, in the South and abroad as well as the people from all strata of society unite and fight. All the Koreans must unite on the principle of placing the common interests of the nation above all else, irrespective of their class, ideology, political view and religion. No class and no social section should place the interests of their own class above the national interests or set the struggle for social and class interests against the struggle for national reunification.

All the groups and organisations which are fighting for the reunification of the fatherland must cooperate and unite with one another and form a nationwide united front comprising all political parties, social and other organisations and public figures from different strata of the North, the South and abroad.

The patriotic efforts and distinguished services rendered by the people from all walks of life in the noble cause of national reunification will be highly appreciated in the future by the unified fatherland and after reunification, too, the entire Korean nation should make common cause at all times to build a new, prosperous fatherland.

It is historical inevitability that a nation which has been divided artificially by outside forces should be reunified. All our compatriots in the North, in the South and abroad must unite closely and fight dynamically, full of hope and conviction, and make the 1990's a historic period of national reunification.

Comrades:

At present, sharp confrontation and struggle between socialism and imperialism and between progress and reaction are continuing on the international arena.

Owing to the cunning and shameless acts of the imperialists to realize their wild dream for world supremacy, unexpected and complicated events are taking place one after another in many parts of the world, and the people's socialist cause is running against grave challenges. This is arousing great anxiety among the progressive people throughout the world who value justice and the future of mankind and aspire to chajusong.

While maintaining the policy of strength, the imperialists are now resorting to what they call the "peaceful transition" strategy to undermine socialism. They are attempting to turn the socialist countries to capitalism by paralysing the people's revolutionary consciousness through ideological and cultural infiltration, bribing them economically with "aid" as a bait, and brewing socio-political disturbances through the instigation of anti-socialist elements.

The imperialists are cheering themselves while clamoring for the "crisis of socialism," but this is ridiculous. It is imperialism and none other that is now suffering from an incurable malady. The imperialists themselves are falling into an irretrievable crisis. Imperialism whose days are numbered cannot decide the people's destiny nor can it reverse the current of history.

The imperialists, the reaction of history, seek to maintain the outmoded society in which exploitation and oppression of man by man prevail, whereas the popular masses, the subject of history, desire to build a new society free from exploitation and oppression, a society in which everybody leads an independent and creative life as the master of the state and society and as the master of his own destiny. Advancing along the road of socialism is the main trend of historical progress. This is the only road for mankind to take.

Socialism which became a reality for the first time by the Great October Socialist Revolution and has made victorious advance has abolished age-long, outmoded societies and has become the motive force of history to create new people-oriented societies as well as the banner of man's emancipation, a banner that inspires the world's people in their struggle for chajusong.

Since the way to socialism is an untrodden path, socialism may run across unexpected obstacles in its progress and suffer temporary setbacks. Also the way of building socialism has to be improved steadily in accordance with the changing and developing reality. When shortcomings have been revealed in building socialism, they must be corrected without hesitation by drawing appropriate lessons from them. It is a recognized truth that criticism and self-criticism are the motive power for the development of socialist society.

The point in question is how to overcome obstacles lying in the way of advance and how to continue with the socialist cause. Socialism which is based on collectivism is a society that develops on the principles fundamentally different from those of capitalism which is based on individualism. It has an incomparable superiority over capitalism. If one gives up the socialist principles and tries to find solution to problems in capitalist methods, when encountered with difficulties in the course of building socialism, one will be unable to overcome the obstacles and, worse still, will neutralize the inherent advantages of socialism, find oneself in confusion and lose even the revolutionary achievements scored with blood.

Socialism can only be built on the socialist principles and by socialist methods. All problems arising in the building of socialism must always be solved on the basis of socialist theories, on the principle of bringing the advantages of socialism into play and by giving reins to the inexhaustible creativity of the popular masses, the subject of the revolution. When the situation is complex and the reactionary offensive is increased, the revolutionary people must hold fast to the revolutionary principle and advance, holding higher the banner of socialism.

Independence, peace and friendship are the basic ideals of the foreign policy of our Republic, and these are of universal significance in developing international relations as required to make independence prevail over the whole world. The government of our Republic will, in the future, too, consistently follow its foreign policy of independence, peace, and friendship.

Chajusong is the lifeblood of an independent and sovereign state and the basis of all international relations. Every country is an equal member of the international community and has equal sovereignty. In the world there are large and small countries but there can be no high-ranking or low-ranking ones. Therefore, all countries must be ensured complete equality based on chajusong in their relations.

The government of our Republic will firmly adhere to an independent stand and formulate its foreign policy in the interests of our people and in the common interests of the progressive people throughout the world and will follow invariably an independent foreign policy in any complicated situation. We are opposed to all manner of aggression and foreign interference, reject imperialism, colonialism and racism, and give strong support to the peoples of all countries in their struggle for their sovereignty and for national and class liberation.

Opposing war and safeguarding peace is the common aspiration of mankind. The people can succeed in building a new, independent, and prosperous society only when peaceful circumstances are guaranteed.

In order to prevent war and safeguard peace, disarmament must be realized, nuclear weapons be completely abolished, and aggressive troops and military bases in other countries be withdrawn from there. The peace-loving people throughout the world must sharpen their vigilance against the imperialists' moves to disarm the socialist countries and to hold their supremacy over them under the cloak of "disarmament" and "detente." They must not tolerate the imperialists' armed intervention and military aggression against other countries. Peace must be won through the principled struggle against the imperialists' moves for arms build-up and their war policy, not by begging them for it or by means of unilateral concession.

The government of our Republic will work hard to frustrate the imperialist policy for aggression and war-land to make the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free, peace zone and give strong support and encouragement to the anti-war, anti-nuclear peace movement of the people in many lands of the world.

Struggle for making dependence prevail throughout the world is the common cause of the world's people and the subject of this struggle is the world's people who advocate chajusong. It is only when friendship and solidarity among the people throughout the world are strengthened that the obstructive manoeuvres of the imperialists can be frustrated, global independence be successfully promoted and the independent development of each nation be guaranteed. The progressive people all over the world, who advocate chajusong, must counter the imperialist manoeuvres for division and alienation with the strategy of unity. "Let the world's people advovating chajusong unite " is precisely the internationalist slogan of our times. The government of our republic will strengthen unity and solidarity with the socialist countries on the socialist principle and in the spirit of comradely cooperation and will strive to consolidate the unity and cohesion of the Nonaligned Movement and to develop the relations of friendship and cooperation between our country and the nonaligned and developing nations. We will develop South-South cooperation in all fields of politics, the economy and culture on the principle of collective self-reliance. The government of our Republic will also establish friendly relations with the capitalist countries which respect our sovereignty and will develop economic and cultural exchanges on the principle of equality and mutual respect.

The mankind's cause of chajusong, the cause of socialism, will surely emerge victorious by overcoming obstacles and difficulties lying in the way of advanne. The wicked reactionary moves to check historic progress have not begun only now. Human history has always advanced through fierce struggles against reactionaries. These maneuvres against the trend of the times have always failed. Victory and glory will certainly await the people who are struggling with confidence in the cause of justice, and with an unshakable conviction of a bright future, full of optimism.

Our people are entrusted with an honorable mission by the times and history to pave the road of independence, the road of socialism, successfully under the banner of the chuche idea. Let all of us fight resolutely, closely united around our party and the government of our Republic, to accelerate the complete victory of socialism and the self-determined, peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

Attendance at Opening Reported

SK2405073290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0709 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 24 (KCNA)—The first session of the ninth Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea opened at the Mansudae Assemdly Hall today.

The newly elected deputies were present at the session.

Officials of party and power bodies, administrative and economic organs and social organizations, men of science, education, culture and art, public health and the press attended the session as observers.

The great Leader Comrade Kim Il-song stepped on to the platform.

The platform party included Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee [CC] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], Comrade O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and minister of people's armed forces, and other party and state leading officials Yi Chong-ok, Pak Song-chol, Yon Hyong-muk, Kim Yong-nam, Choe Kwang, Kye Ung-tae, Han Song-yong, Ho Tam, Chon Pyong-ho, Kang Song-san, So Yun-sok, Hyon Mu-kwang, Choe Tae-pok, Kim Chol-man, Choe Yong-nim, Hong Song-nam, Kim Pok-sin, Kang Hui-won, Cho Se-ung and Hong Si-hak.

Yi Kye-paek, chairman of the C.C., the Korean Social Democratic Party, and Chong Sin-hyok, chairman of the C.C., the Chondoist Chongu Party also took the platform.

Deputy Pak Song-chol made an opening address at the session.

The session elected the chairman, vice-chairmen and the credentials committee of the SPA.

The following agenda of the first session of the ninth SPA of the DPRK was carried:

1. Election of the president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
2. Election of DPRK state leadership organs
3. On the results of the fulfilment of the state budget for 1989 and on the state budget for 1990 of the DPRK

The president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was elected at the session first.

Deputy Yi Chong-ok, upon authorization by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, made a speech on the election of DPRK president.

All the deputies and participants in the session warmly welcomed the proposal to elect Comrade Kim Il-song president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The reelection of Comrade Kim Il-song as president of the DPRK was solemnly declared at the session.

The session elected vice-presidents of the DPRK on the recommendation of Comrade Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

It formed the DPRK National Defence Commission and elected the secretary and members of the Central People's Committee.

It also elected secretary general and members of the SPA Standiing Committee. It appointed the procurator general of the Central Procurator's Office and elected the president of the Central Court of the DPRK. The session elected premier of the DPRK Administration Council.

Deputy Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the Administration Council, authorized by President Kim Il-song, made public the list of the members of the administration council of the DPRK.

Deputy Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the Administration Council, took his oath before President Kim Il-song.

Elected at the session were the Bills Committee, the Budget Committee, the Foreign Affairs Committee and the Reunification Policy Committee under the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK.

A report of the Credentials Committee of the ninth SPA of the DPRK was delivered by Deputy Kim Chung-nin, chairman of the SPA Credentials Committee, and a decision approving it was adopted at the session.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, made the historic policy speech "Let Us Bring the Advantages of Socialism in Our Country Into Full Play" at the session.

His speech is a banner of human liberation, a bright beacon indicating the road to the victory of socialism and a militant programme which powerfully encourages our people in the historic march to conquer a new higher peak of socialism and accomplish the cause of national reunification and make independence prevail throughout the world.

The session continues.

U.S. 'Reckless War Exercises' Denounced

SK2305231490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1522 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 23 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists brought formations of Okinawa-based nuclear-capable "F-16" and "F-15" fighter-bombers into the sky above South Korea between 09:00 and 12:00 May 18 to stage a coordinated aerial nuclear strike exercise in cooperation with formations of "F-16" fighter-bombers belonging to the U.S. Seventh Air Force in South Korea for a simulated surprise attack on the targets in the strategic depth of the northern half of Korea, according to military sources.

Such exercise was held on May 19, involving a total of 190 planes of various types including nuclear-capable fighter-bombers and mid-air refuelling tankers.

The U.S. imperialists held a similar aerial war exercise in South Korea on May 22 with the mobilization of a total of 400 planes.

Their reckless war exercises clearly show how frantically they are working to realise their design of aggression on the North.

Anniversary of U.S. Facility in South Marked

SK2305230690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1511 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 23 (KCNA)—A meeting of students in Pyongyang was held today to commemorate the fifth anniversary of South Korean students' occupation of the "U.S. Information Service" in Seoul.

Students of Seoul and other universities occupied the "U.S. Information Service," the U.S. imperialists' centre of ideological and cultural infiltration, downtown Seoul and staged a fierce struggle for the four consecutive days from May 23, 1985, shouting "The United States, go away," "The United States must be held responsible for the Kwangju incident and make an opn apology for it" and "The United States, stop its backing to the military dictatorship" when the anti-U.S. struggle of students is surging high on the ocmasion of the fifth anniversary of the Kwangju popular uprising in South Korea.

Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, in a report said that the South Korean students' occupation of the "U.S. Information Service" in Seoul was a patriotic, anti-U.S. strugle which indicted to the world the criminal acts of the U.S. imperialists, the colonial ruler who lords it over the South Korean people and chieftain of the Kwangju massacre and administered a telling blow at their colonial rule.

The struggle, he noted, was an epoch-making event that powerfully aroused broad segments of South Korean people in the sacred struggle for national sovereignty, democracy and national reunification.

The anti-U.S. struggle of South Korean students for independence is not a mere repulsion for the atrocities of the U.S. forces but a struggle to liquidate the colonial rule itself, and it is expanding and developing into massive anti-U.S. resistance of students, not a movement of a minority of students, and it has become a strength that no fascist suppression can check, the reporter said, and stressed:

The South Korean students must destroy he fascist "security-oriented policy", keep up the powerful struggle against the "Democratic Liberal Party" and the "government" and stage a more dynamic struggle to abolish all the evil laws including the "National Security Law" and suppressive machines, achieve the freedom of speech, the press, assembly and association and get patriotic-minded students and democratic figures including Yim Su-kyong, Mun Ik-hwan, Mun Kyu-hyon and Im Chong-sok unconditionally released.

Kim Il-song Receives Departing Bulgarian Envoy

SK2305225890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1509 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 23 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received Petur Danailov Bulgarian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Korea, today when the latter paid a farewell call on him.

On hand were Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam and officials of the Bulgarian Embassy here.

President Kim Il-song conversed with the ambassador.

NODONG SINMUN Article Stresses Leadership

SK2305225090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1458 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 23 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today dedicates a signed article headlined "To Guarantee Monolithic Idea And Leadership Is Life And Soul of the Party" to the day of the publication of the May 25, 1967, work of the great leader president Kim Il-song.

The article says:

In his immortal classical work the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, basing himself on a scientific analysis of the lawful demands of revolutionary party building of the working class and the specific conditions of our party's ideological work, defined the work of firmly establishing a monolithic ideological system within the party as the basic orientation of the party propaganda work and the fundamental principle of the party building.

As the work gives a clear exposition of the fundamental question arising in the party building of the working class it serves as a highly important guideline which makes it possible to strengthen and develop the party into a powerful revolutionary party of chuche in which monolithic idea and leadership have been firmly established and as a monumental work which brought a new turn in party building.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has said:

"establishing the party's monolithic ideological system is the main guarantee for the organizational and ideological consolidation of its ranks."

Establishing the party's monolithic ideological system, that is, guaranteeing monolithic idea and leadership, is the basic principle of the party building which must be constantly maintained in the whole period of the existence of the party.

Guaranteeing monolithic idea and leadership means achieving the unity of the whole party around the leader in ideology, purpose and action.

To guarantee unanimity in idea and leadership is the party's life and soul.

It enables a party of the working class, first of all, to firmly preserve its intrinsic nature down through generations.

It is only the party which is guided by the idea of the leader and united in action that can discharge its mission and tasks and firmly defend its intrinsic nature generation after generation.

To guarantee unanimity in idea and leadership also makes it possible to constantly strengthen and develop a party into a revolutionary party which has indestructible militancy and leadership ability.

Unanimity in idea and leadership makes it possible to surmount all anti-party ideological trends and factional elements and firmly ensure the party's political and ideological unity and purity.

Our party's struggle to guarantee unanimity in idea and leadership has brought about a fundamental turn thanks to the wise leadership of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il. He published historical works to brilliantly embody the chuche- oriented idea and theory of the great leader President Kim Il-song on party building and thus properly set up the ideological and theoretical system on establishing the party's monolithic ideological system and has energetically led the work to firmly guarantee unanimity in idea and leadership within the party. As our party has wisely led this work under the slogan of modelling the whole of society on the chuche idea, today the monolithic ideological system has been firmly established within the party.

Indeed, through the struggle to ensure unanimity in idea and leadership, our party has been strengthened and developed into a powerful party which has gained a singlehearted unity, its members united with one thought around the leader and acting as one, a revolutionary party of chuche type which is brilliantly carrying forward the blood of chuche.

The party whose members are united with one thought around one centre and act as one—this is the proud feature of our party.

The establishment of an orderly systemunder which the whole party and the whole society think and act as one guided by the mtnolithic idea is a priceless success achieved in the development of the party and the accomplishment of the cause of socialism and it is a shining fruition of our party's wise leadership for ensuring unanimity in idea and leadership.

Foreign Ministry Denounces 'Murder' by Zionists

SK2405103890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1025 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 24 (KCNA)—The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean People scathingly denounce the brutal murder committed by the Israeli Zionists, said a spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a statement today.

The statement charged that the murder of Palestinians by the Israeli Zionists on May 20 resulted from their expansionist and racist policy and it is a shameless crime violating the publicly accepted principles and norms of international law.

It said:

The atrocity of the Israeli racists in arbitrarily occupying the territory of another nation and killing people right and left still today by the same method as was employed by the old colonialists in the past, is an intolerable challenge to human consciousness and justice.

Israel's territorial expansion moves against Palestine and massacre of its people are committed at the instigation of the United States.

The world's progressive people and the international community must, in a united action, put an end to the Israeli aggression and murder and defend the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The Korean people will as ever invariably extend full support and encouragement to their cause of justice.

Chong Chun-ki Attends Chongnyon Anniversary Fete

SK2305230890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1518 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 23 (KCNA)—A photo exhibition marking the 35th anniversary of the formation of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) opened here.

Displayed there are photographs impressively showing the proud road covered by Chongnyon over the past 35 years.

The opening ceremony was held today at the People's Palace of Culture.

Present at the opening ceremony were working people in the city and members of the group of Koreans from Japan visiting the homeland to express thanks on the 35th anniversary of the formation of Chongnyon headed by Yi Mal-sang, vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon, and other Chongnyon delegations and visiting groups staying in the socialist homeland.

Addressing the ceremony, Vice-Premier Chong Chun-ki said that the formation of Chongnyon was a brilliant victory of the chuche-orientated idea of the overseas Koreans' movement and a historical event which brought about a great turn in the destiny of Koreans in Japan and in the development of their movement.

The proud achievements made by Chongnyon are a shining fruition of the immortal chuche idea founded by the great leader comrade Kim Il-song and the chuche-based unique idea of the overseas Koreans' movement and a result of the tested leadership of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il who is leading the movement of Koreans in Japan along a road of victory and glory, he said.

Sportswoman Talks to KCNA About Brother

SK2305232390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1534 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 23 (KCNA)—People's sportswoman of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Han Pil-hwa answered today a question of a KCNA reporter on her letter sent to the president of the South Korean Red Cross.

Saying that her much awaited brother and his family have not come to Pyongyang, though the appointed date has passed, and only a letter in his name came to the acting chairman of the Central Committee of the DPRK Red Cross Society, Han Pil-hwa went on:

The keynote of the letter is that he and his wife would make a trip to Pyongyang, leaving their children at home because they do not long for their grandmother and that the mikes and taperecorders carried by my brother under his clothes when he met me in Sapporo, Japan, were for the news coverage of reporters.

I sent a letter to the president of the South Korean Red Cross today, unable to believe that the letter sent here this time in the name of my brother reflected his true heart.

In my letter I, to begin with, expressed regret at the failure of my brother and his family to come to Pyongyang on the appointed date owing to the insincere attitude of the South Korean Red Cross and wrote that my mother and all the family were all disappointed and surprised when they were briefed on the letter which came in his name this time.

When my family and relatives, especially my mother who is anxiously waiting for her son and grandchildren, awake or asleep, heard that my brother in his letter said he would not bring the children because they do not long for their grandmother, they would not believe this to be the real intention of my brother. They asked can there be children who do not want to see their own grandmother, knowing that she is alive and can there be a father who would say openly that his children do not want to see grandmother.

The letter from my brother even claimed that the bugging mikes and taperecorders carried by him under his clothes when he met me in Sapporo, Japan, were for the news coverage of reporters. This also totally contradicts fact.

In this regard, I had asked the South Korean Red Cross first of all to take an appropriate step so that those concerned could apologize for the breach of human rights they committed by attaching bugging mikes and taperecorders to my brother when we met him in Japan, thus creating an unpleasant atmosphere.

And, considering mother's strong wish to see her grandchildren as well as her son and daughter-in-law, I expressed the hope that it would do its utmost to help all the family of my brother come over to Pyongyang and keep from using my brother for a political purpose or treating him badly.

It is well worth noting that I conveyed my mother's wish that the South Korean Red Cross will stop meddling any longer, because the Pyongyang visit of my brother's family to see mother and its going back is a question to be discussed and solved between our family members.

In conclusion, I sincerely hoped in the letter that the South Korean Red Cross side would accept the request of our family with a generous attitude and render unsparing assistance to a meeting and reunion between our family members.

South Korea

President No Tae-u Leaves Seoul for Tokyo

OW2405013590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0114 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 24 KYODO—President No Tae-u left for Tokyo on Thursday for a three-day state visit to Japan.

No, only the second South Korean head of state to make such a visit, will arrive at Tokyo International Airport at Haneda, southern Tokyo, around noon. He is accompanied by Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung, Justice Minister Yi Chong-nam, Trade and Industry Minister Pak Pil-su, and Science and Technology Minister Chong Kun-mo.

Soon after his arrival in Tokyo, the President will meet Emperor Akihito and hold a first round of talks with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu. In the evening, No will attend a court banquet given in his honor at the Imperial Palace.

On Friday, No will deliver speeches at a House of Representatives plenary session and at a luncheon hosted by business leaders. He will have a second round of talks with Kaifu on Saturday before returning home via Osaka, western Japan.

Nation To Propose to Japan on Coordinating Panel

SK2405074590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0258 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 24 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea will propose to Japan that a coordinating council for industrial restructuring be set up to help correct Japan's huge trade surplus with Korea, a Trade and Industry Ministry official said Thursday.

The proposal will be made at a meeting of the Korea-Japan Trade and Industry Ministers during President No Tae-u's three-day state visit to Tokyo, the official said.

The coordinating council would build a system of cooperation under which Japan would ease restrictions on providing Korea with high technology and try to rectify the trade imbalance, according to the official.

Industrial restructuring will help relations between Korean and Japanese businesses, especially in technology, he said.

The Korean Government will ask Japan at the meeting to ease restrictions on investment in Korea by businesses run by Korean residents in Japan and to allow Korean construction companies to participate in projects in Japan, the official said.

The government will also push forward with plans to jointly hold trade fairs and exhibitions in Japan to correct the trade deficit while promoting bilateral trade, the official said.

Radical Student Gets 10-Year Sentence

SK2405055690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0536 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 24 (YONHAP)—A radical student leader was handed a 10-year prison sentence Thursday for organizing various anti-government activities as head of South Korea's largest student group.

A three-man panel of judges at the Seoul district criminal court sentenced Im Chong-sok, 23, former chairman of Chondaehyop, the national student representatives' council, to 10 years in jail for violating the National Security Law and for seven other crimes.

The prosecution had demanded 12 years imprisonment.

Judge Chong Sang-hak said in the ruling that the defendant was guilty of organizing a demonstration by 12,000 farmers at a rally on Yoido plaza last year and of arranging for Yim Su-kyong to take part in the World Youth Festival in Pyongyang last summer as the Chondaehyop representative.

Yim, now serving time for her crime, was a student at Hanguk University of Foreign Studies when she made the unauthorized trip to North Korea to represent the radical group at the event. Im was chairman of Chondaehyop at the time.

The judge said Yim's actions resulted in a joint statement by Yim and a North Korean student representative that sympathized with Pyongyang's reunification formula and so served the interests of North Korea.

Yim was arrested in February when he participated in a student gathering on a Seoul campus.

Some 200 relatives, students and dissidents watched the ruling and jeered at the bench when it handed down the heavy punishment.

Northern Scholar Interviewed at Symposium

SK2305114490 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 22 May 90 p 5

[Text] Choe U-chin, deputy director of the Institute for Peace and Arms Reduction of North Korea, and Yi Hyong-chol, director of the Research Office of the institute, had a press conference with South Korean reporters in Washington on the afternoon of 19 May at the Grand Hotel in Washington. The two North Koreans attended a symposium held at George Washington University under the joint auspices of the university and the Japanese daily YOMIURI SHIMBUN. Before the press conference Choe U-chin said: In the current conference, each foreign delegate represented one state. However, only we, the Korean scholars, attended the conference divided into the North and the South. This was indeed heart-rending.

Following is the gist of the interview:

[Question] Was there any new proposal or plan discussed at the conference?

[Answer] At the conference we scholars who are from the North and the South showed that we can understand each other. We have come to have the firm conviction that we can achieve reunification. The atmosphere on private occasions was particularly good and friendly.

[Question] There have been reports that the ROK and the Soviet Union will establish diplomatic relations in the near future. What do you think of this?

[Answer] The establishment of diplomatic relations between neighboring countries should be considered from the angle of whether it will be conducive to reunification of Korea or not. I think that the establishment of diplomatic relations between South Korea and the Soviet Union would perpetuate the division of the Korean peninsula.

[Question] In other words, you mean that North Korea has no intention of establishing diplomatic relations even if the United States proposes establishing diplomatic relations. Is that correct? We know that North Korea wants the United States to upgrade the diplomats' contacts in Beijing to ambassadorial level. Don't you think this is a contradiction?

[Answer] The reason we want to make contacts with the United States is not only because the United States is responsible for the existence of the Korean question and for its present situation, but also because it is therefore responsible for the solution of this situation. The United States is one party of the Armistice Agreement. Discussing pending issues is different from establishing diplomatic relations.

[Question] Replacing the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement and alleviating tension on the Korean peninsula are precisely the issues which should be solved through dialogue between North and South Korea. Don't you think so?

[Answer] Of course, North-South dialogue is important. However, what should be done first of all is to eliminate distrust and misunderstanding.

[Question] According to recent reports, North Korea refused to hold Red Cross talks and to jointly develop Mt. Kumgang with the Hyundai Group. In the process for Germany's reunification, economic reunification is being sought first before political reunification is achieved.

[Answer] Of course, we attach importance to Red Cross contacts and economic exchanges. However, the most urgent problem is to do away with the present state of cease-fire. A tense situation in which war may break out at any moment continues.

[Question] It is said that the termination of the cold war in Europe was motivated first by President Gorbachev's unilateral declaration and implementation of a large-scale arms reduction. Doesn't North Korea intend to unilaterally reduce a considerable number of its armed forces?

[Answer] Already in July 1987 we put forward a proposal for three-phased arms reduction through a statement issued by our government. The proposal demands that the North and the South reduce their military troops to 100,000 each by 1993. In 1987 we unilaterally reduced by 100,000 troops. However, we have not received any affirmative response to this yet. We hope that this matter will be sincerely discussed at high-level talks in the future.

[Question] There have been worries over the possibility of North Korea developing nuclear weapons. North Korea has joined the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty. Yet, it has not concluded a nuclear safety agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]. Why?

[Answer] U.S. nuclear weapons have been deployed in South Korea. We joined the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty in 1985. In June 1986 we put forward a proposal for making Korea a nuclear-free peace zone. There has been no positive response to the proposal from the United States. What we want at the present time is that the United States assures the North not to threaten it with nuclear weapons. If and when we sign a nuclear safety agreement with the IAEA, the United States should take the resolute step of withdrawing nuclear weapons from the South.

[Question] You implied that North Korea will continue to develop nuclear weapons, don't you?

[Answer] The report that we are developing nuclear weapons is wrong and false. We do not have any facilities nor capability for developing nuclear weapons. We do not have even a nuclear atomic reactor.

[Question) Signing a nuclear safety agreement with the IAEA is an obligation. In other words, a country which has joined the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty should sign a nuclear safety agreement with the IAEA within 18 months after its joining of the treaty. North Korea has failed to implement this obligation. Why?

[Answer] When we joined the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty we expected that the United States would clarify first its intent to withdraw nuclear weapons and then would gradually withdraw them. In claiming the implementation of such an obligation, the specific situation of Korea should be taken into consideration. We are now in a state of cease-fire.

[Question] You said that there is no nuclear reactor in North Korea. What is in Yongbyon? Isn't there even a nuclear reactor for experimentation purposes?

[Answer] We have nuclear reactors for experimentation purposes which are used in training technicians.

[Question] Seeing the communist regimes in East European countries collapsing, we feel the need for changes in North and South Korea alike. Many opinions claim that there should be more changes in North Korea in particular.

[Answer] What is important is how and in what direction changes should be made. We establish and implement policies from the following two viewpoints: How can we lead the people to live independently and creatively? How rapidly can we achieve reunification?

[Question] We think that in order not to lag behind the times North Korea as well should be changed. What do you think?

[Answer] What is backward and what is advanced? Such a problem should be prescribed from a national viewpoint. Considering such a problem from the standpoint of promoting independence of a people and a nation, I don't think North Korea is backward. I believe that we stand at the head of the advance toward independence. The people's happy and equal life in North Korea should also be considered in describing what is backward and what is advanced.

Reshuffle of North's Workers Party Reported

SK2405034490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0237 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 24 (OANA-YONHAP)—North Korea partly reshuffled the Workers Party leadership Wednesday [23 May], with Ho Tam replaced as Central Committee secretary in charge of international affairs by Kim Yong-sun, director of the Central Committee's international department, Seoul's official watcher of affairs in the communist world reported Thursday, quoting a Pyongyang radio report.

NAEWOE PRESS said that Ho, a key figure in North Korean diplomacy, was given a new post but did not specify what post. A North Korean expert here says Ho is likely to become one of the North's three vice presidents, filling a vacancy.

The two vice presidents are Yi Chong-ok and Pak Song-chol.

Choe Kwang, army chief of general staff, and party secretary Han Song-yong were named politburo members, and secretaries Choe Tae-pok, Kim Chol-man and Choe Yong-nim were made alternate members of the Politburo.

The reshuffle was decided in a party leaders' meeting chaired by President Kim Il-song on the eve of the first session of the ninth Supreme People's Assembly.

The meeting also discussed a draft of the organization of state and the government prepared by the Central Committee, NAEWOE said.

North Korea did not reveal the contents of the draft, which will be referred to the Assembly.

Editorial: North's Turn To Follow Yemeni Example

SK2405022690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 24 May 90 p 6

[Editorial: "Yemen's Example"]

[Text] The widespread trend of the contemporary world is liberalization and opening of closed and regimented societies and reunion of divided countries. The trend is evident in the imminent reintegration of the two Germanys in Europe and the recent merger of the two Yemens in the Middle East. But change has yet to come to north Korea, caught in the tight grip of the longest-reigning Communist dictator, Kim Il-song.

North and South Yemen officially merged into a unified Republic of Yemen Tuesday, joining two nations of tribes into one country standing on the brink of oil wealth. The merger erased the traces of the Arab world's only Communist government in Aden.

The reunion came about as a result of Marxist South Yemen's relinquishment of its Communist laws to pave the way for the restoration of private property and a market economy. It saw in the current changes in the East bloc a new challenge for reform and democratization.

Sanaa in North Yemen will be the capital of the new state, with Aden in South Yemen the main commercial center. 'Ali 'Abdallah, Salih, president of North Yemen, was elected president to rule the united state. The five-man Presidential Council was chosen by a joint session of the Supreme Presidium of the former South Yemen and the Advisory Council of the former North Yemen.

It is remarkable that the two previously hostile parts of the divided nation were able to achieve reunion by peaceful land democratic means with little tug of war. The same is true with the Germans. The latest announcement by the Taiwan government to abandon its policy of confrontation toward Beijing to end a state of war seems to increase the chances of a thaw in China. It is now Pyongyang's turn to liberalize and open up for pacific rapport and reunion and Seoul.

Merger May Jeopardize PPD Head's Status

SK2405085090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0822 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 24 (YONHAP)—A defiant attempt by several lawmakers from the Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) to speed up the formation of a single opposition party has put Kim Tae-chung's position as PPD leader in jeopardy and is opening a rift between party factions.

The PPD Committee for an Integrated Opposition met Thursday morning to discuss the projected merger with a group that is in the process of forming the tentatively named Democratic Party (DP), but factions for and against an early alliance made little progress.

Kim is asking the defiant lawmakers to withhold discussion of the merger until he talks with President No Tae-u on Tuesday, but they insist on mustering sympathizers to their cause.

Several PPD national assemblymen kicked off a campaign over the weekend to collect signatures in support of their move to accelerate the merger.

Kim and other PPD lawmakers against early unification charge that a new compromise merger drafted by a dozen politicians from both groups is almost the same as one suggested by the DP, which has eight maverick parliamentarians compared with the PPD's 70.

The new merger plan is designed to form a single opposition party as soon as possible, before the DP's official inaugural convention.

Election of a party leader and chapter heads would follow the merger, according to the scenario written by the rebels.

But Kim and his loyalists oppose the idea on the grounds that a hasty merger without election of regional chapter heads might cause a lot of splinters when they are eliminated from local chapter elections.

It appears that Kim's resistance to an early merger arises from concern that the push for a realigned opposition may be designed to retire him to the sidelines.

The intra-party strife shows signs of deterioration as a PPD fraternity is preparing a meeting to discipline two lawmakers spearheading an early merger.

So far, 10 PPD lawmakers have signed in support of forming an integrated opposition at the earliest possible date, and most of them are from constituencies in Seoul.

The PPD has its political stronghold in Kwangju and the nearby Cholla provinces and has been criticised for its regionally imbalanced public support.

The DP comprises lawmakers and politicians who chose to stay in the opposition camp when Kim Yong-sam, an arch-rival to Kim Tae-chung for opposition hegemony, joined the new ruling party in a merger of three parties in February.

Most of the DP lawmakers are from constituencies in Pusan, the political homeground of Kim Yong-sam, and there are growing calls for a PPD-DP merger to cope with the giant new government party.

IAC Urges Two Koreas To Hold Summit Meeting

SK2405074790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0658 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 24 (OANA-YONHAP)—Former presidents and prime ministers from more than two dozen countries have urged South and North Korea to hold a summit meeting, "without preconditions—as soon as possible," as a first step toward peaceful unification.

In a statement adopted at the end of its first session Thursday, the Interaction Council (IAC) also called for both governments to "permit immediate visits and unrestricted communications between members of separated families" in the two Koreas.

"The dramatic changes taking place in the world today demand equally dramatic and courageous decisions by the governments of South and North Korea, a nation which still remains divided," it said.

"To enhance mutual confidence between the two Koreas, both government should legalize travel by the citizens of the two Koreas to and from the South and the North," the statement said.

The statement was initiated by former Papanese Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda, honorary IAC chairman.

The Seoul IAC meeting opened Wednesday and continues through Saturday under the chairmanship of former West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

Also attending the meeting are former Portuguese Prime Minister Maria De Lourdes Pintasilgo (deputy IAC chairman), former French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, former Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, former Yugoslavian Federal Executive Council President Mitja Ribicic and former Korean Prime Minister Sin Hyon-hwak.

Red Cross Said Interfering in Proposed Visit

SK2405014290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0127 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 24 (YONHAP)—A high-ranking North Korean sports official has accused the South Korean National Red Cross (KNRC) of interfering in a trip by her elder brother, a South Korean farmer, to visit his mother in North Korea.

In a letter to KNRC President Kim Sang-hyop delivered via the truce village of Panmunjom, Han Pil-hwa, a former speed-skating queen, held the KNRC responsible for the failure of Han Pil-song to visit Pyongyang.

According to NAEWOE PRESS, which specializes in North Korean affairs, Han said her brother's entire family should visit Pyongyang and decide whether to return afterward.

She charged that someone concealed a microphone on her brother during their reunion in Sapporo, Japan, in March and demanded that they apologize to her.

Han and her brother had a tearful meeting march 8 after 40 years of separation. Han's brother, 58, and his wife, Hong Ae-cha, 48, received an invitation from her through the KNRC in response to a letter expressing their hope to visit North Korea.

The brother had planned to make a week-long trip to North Korea from may 15 and the government gave his plan the green light, but on may 9 he postponed his visit indefinitely. He said he could not go as the North Korean Red Cross had virtually rejected his demand for a guarantee that he would be allowed to return to the South.

NAEWOE quoted Han as saying that her brother's letter of May 17, in which he said he could not visit the North in the absence of a guarantee of safe return, did not "convey his true feelings and was written against his will."

'Illegal' Funds Used in 1987, 1988 Campaigns

SK2405071190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0228 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 24 (OANA-YONHAP)—The Seoul City Government illegally used 8.8 billion won (12.5 million U.S. dollars) during the 1987 presidential election to support ruling party candidate No Tae-u and in the 1988 general elections in campaigning for the ruling party, a former official of the Board of Audit and Inspection [BAI] said Wednesday.

Yi Mun-ok, a BAI inspector arrested for leaking a BAI report on the real estate holdings of 23 business groups, said he was part of an inspection of the Seoul City administration in 1988 that was ended three days ahead of schedule because of "outside pressure."

He made the remarks during a hearing to review the legality of his arrest at Seoul District Criminal Court, touching off a controversy over "illegal election funds." Yi is charged with leaking secrets of his official duties to the press. The Seoul Criminal District Court dismissed as "unjustifiable" Yi's request Thursday, adding he needs further detention.

Yi also claimed that the Seoul City Government gave 100 million won each to the commander of the capital garrison command and the chief of the Seoul metropolitan police and 50 million won to 100 million won each to heads of Seoul district offices.

A City spokesman immediately denied that the City misused funds, contending that the money given to the military commander came from the national defense fund.

The board often stopped tax inspections of conglomerates under outside pressure, apparently from the presidential office and the conglomerates, Yi said.

His charges come amid mouting criticism of "politics-economy adhesion" between the government and conglomerates.

He also revealed that the board found out that the Samsung Life Insurance Co., a subsidiary of the Samsung Business Group, had reported only 8 billion won in taxable income to the tax office though it had earned 270 billion won from investments in securities.

Yi, 50, said this inspection was also abruptly ended, due to pressure from Samsung.

He claimed that the Hyundai Group, Korea's largest conglomerate, was suspected of earning huge amounts of money by taking over its insolvent subsidiaries, but that the tax office failed to tax the earnings.

The Sunkyong Group, he contended, was expected to pay 1.2 billion won in taxes last year, but was saved because it is run by the father of President No Tae-u's son-in-law.

The conglomerates deny the charges.

Yi's arrest caused controversy over the limits of secrets of official duties and people's right to know.

He handed a BAI report to the HANGYORE SINMUN, a liberal daily critical of the government. It carried the report on the front page and quoted Yi as saying that a BAI inspection of 23 conglomerates' non-business real estate holdings was suspended after lobbying by the big businesses, especially by Samsung.

PPD Seeks Investigation

SK2405080190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0744 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 24 (OANA-YONHAP)—Political controversy erupted Thursday over a government inspector's charges that the Seoul City government illegally used billions of won during the 1987 presidential election and the 1988 general elections to support the ruling party.

The opposition Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD), headed by Kim Tae-chung, called on the government to launch an investigation into the Seoul City administration's alleged misuse of campaign funds.

Even reform-minded ruling party lawmakers demanded the truth be unveiled to restore people's confidence in the government.

Yi Mun-ok, a former official of the Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI) arrested for leaking a BAI report on the real estate holdings of 23 business groups, claimed Wednesday that 8.8 billion won (12.5 million U.S. dollars) was illegally used for campaigning for then ruling party presidential candidate No Tae-u in 1987 and ruling party candidates in the 1988 parliamentary elections.

He claimed the board often stopped tax inspections of conglomerates under outside pressure, apparently from the presidential office and conglomerates, and that he was ordered by his senior to end an inspection of a conglomerate's non-business real estate holdings after alleged lobbying by the group.

Yi made the remarks during a hearing to review the legality of his arrest at Seoul District Criminal Court, which dismissed his appeal as unjustified.

His claims appeared to deal a severe blow to the No government's facade of morality as criticism mounts of "politics-economy adhesion" between the government and big business.

A PPD statement criticized the board for covering up wrongs and irregularities committed by the government and conglomerates and called for Yi's immediate release. Yi has been arrested on charges of leaking a government report to a newspaper.

Kim's party also demanded that a parliamentary inspection be launched into government organizations, including BAI, the Seoul City government and the office of National Tax Administration, to get to the bottom of Yi's charges and called for the prosecution to investigate city hall and the board.

The statement warned that the PPD would launch a nationwide campaign for Yi's release.

An opposition group tentatively named the Democratic Party also demanded a prosecution investigation.

Most officials from the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) responded cautiously to Yi's claims, but members of the faction led by party chairman Kim Yong-sam seemingly joined forces with the opposition in calling for the truth to be uncovered.

Imports Subjected to Tougher Scrutiny

SK2405024490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0135 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 24 (YONHAP)—South Korea will step up scrutiny of consumer imports and tighten controls on imports from nations with an unfavorable trade balance, government sources said Thursday [24 May].

It will tighten hygienic, standardization and safety examinations of electric home appliances, medicines, cosmetics and kitchenware.

To encourage the use of domestic products, the government will expand comparative quality testing of imports and Korean items, and increase the number of items carrying import price tags from 11 to 49.

It will strengthen restrictions on goods from Japan and other countries that run consistent trade surpluses with Korea.

The government also plans to investigate some 200 imports to determine whether they damage domestic industry or not.

Korea has imported 2.04 billion U.S. dollars worth of consumer goods this year as of the end of April, up 7.3 percent from the same period last year.

Investments in Foreign Countries Increase

SK2405023690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0200 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 24 (YONHAP)—South Korean businesses have invested 219.9 million U.S. dollars overseas in 118 projects this year as of the end of April, a sharp increase from 114.3 million dollars in 72 instances in the same period last year, the Finance Ministry said Thursday [24 May].

The most money, 87.5 million dollars, went to Southeast Asia for 64 projects, 65.8 million dollars to North America for 34 projects and 25.8 million dollars to Europe for three projects.

By fields, 124.1 million dollars were invested in 67 manufacturing projects, 36.8 million dollars in 21 trade business projects and 26.9 million dollars in one mining project, the ministry said.

Private-Level Exchanges With Vietnam Expand

SK2405020690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 24 May 90 p 6

[Text] Nongovernmental exchanges between Korea and Vietnam have been expanded in recent months to complement a joint seminar planned for July in Seoul and two Korean scholars will visit Hanoi soon at the invitation of the Vietnamese government.

According to sources yesterday, the Industry and Yonsei University's Institute of East and West Studies are planning to hold a joint seminar in Seoul on July 26-Aug. 2.

The seminar, in which five officials of the Vietnamese chamber will participate, will take up measures to promote bilateral economic cooperation and the economic development projects of the Southeast Asian nation, the source said.

The first joint seminar was held in Vietnam last December when four Korean scholars of problems in East-bloc nations, including Dr. Kim Tal-chung of Yonsei University, visited Hanoi and Ho Chi Mihn City for four days.

The first seminar discussed the politics, economics and development strategies of Vietnam, with which Seoul ahs no diplomatic relations.

Participants also discussed the adoption of the south Korean development model in the economic development of Vietnam, the source said.

Meanwhile, Vietnam asked the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in October 1988 to send economic experts to help the country work out and implement economic development projects. The UNIDO recommended Korean scholars, the source said.

In connection with this, two economic experts of the Korea Development Institute (KDI) will be sent to Vietnam soon, the source said.

Two Korean diplomats participated in an international conference held in Ho Chi Minh City last April as observers. It was the first time in 15 years that South Korean diplomats attended an international meeting held in Vietnam. Seoul and Hanoi severed formal diplomatic ties in 1975 when the Southeast Asian nation was communized.

Talks Held With China for Shanghai Air Routes

SK2405075690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0556 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 24 (YONHAP)—South Korea and China are holding talks on opening regular air routes between Seoul and Shanghai before the Asian Games open in Beijing on Sept. 22.

Sources at the Transportation Ministry said Thursday that Yi Hon-sok, director-general for aviation affairs, went to Beijing at the weekend to talk with Chinese officials about expanding air service from the current twice-a-month chartered flights of Korean Air between Seoul and Shanghai to regular flights.

The Chinese authorities took a positive attitude to the expansion of flights, the sources said.

If regular flights open between Seoul and Shanghai, the air routes linking Seoul and Moscow will be shorter and are expected to attract more travelers, the sources said.

Air Service to Vienna To Start 3 Jun

SK2405020090 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 24 May 90 p 3

[Text] Korean Air [KAL] will inaugurate a once-a-week flight service between Seoul and Vienna on June 3. KAL will fly a 410-seat Boeing 747 aircraft on the route.

The Vienna service is the extension of the current Seoul-Frankfurt flight. With the opening of the Seoul-Frankfurt-Vienna route, the total flights to the West German city by the flag carrier will increase to three a week.

New Flight Service to Bangkok To Start 2 Jun

SK2405020890 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 24 May 90 p 3

[Text] Northwest Airlines (NWA) will inaugurate nonstop service from Seoul to Bangkok starting June 2, an NWA spokesman said yesterday.

Northwest Flight 023 will leave Kimpo airport for Bangkok at 7 p.m. every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Return flights depart Bangkok at 6 a.m. (local time) Sunday, Wednesday and Friday, arriving in Seoul at 1:15 p.m. the same day. The new service will be an extension of Northwest's current nonstop daily flight from Los Angeles to Seoul. A Boeing 747 will be in service on the Los Angeles-Seoul-Bangkok route.

Burma

Phone Myint Receives PRC Minister, Delegation

BK2305145890 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Mr. Zhang Xuedong, vice minister of machine building and electronics industry, and a delegation from the People's Republic of China, in the company of Mr. Cheng Ruisheng, PRC ambassador to Myanmar [Burma], paid a courtesy call on Lieutenant General Phone Myint, minister of information and culture and home and religious affairs, at the Ministry of Culture on Pansodan Road, Yangon [Rangoon].

Present on the occasion were Lieutenant Colonel Tin Tun of the Ministry of Information and Culture; Lt. Col. Than Htut of the Defense Ministry's Office of the Director of Signals; U Tin Pe, managing director of the Motion Picture Enterprise; U Myint Soe, managing director of the Printing and Publishing Enterprise; U Sein Win, head of the office of the Ministry of Information; and U Tun Zaw, head of the office of the Ministry of Culture.

The Chinese vice minister and his delegation arrived in Yangon by air at 1240 today and were welcomed at Yangon airport by Lt. Col. Tin Tun, Lt. Col. Than Htut, Lt. Col. Nay Lwin—director general of the Information and Broadcasting Department—responsible officials, and the PRC ambassador and staff members of the PRC Embassy. In the evening, the PRC vice minister and his delegation visited the National Museum on Pansodan Road.

Foreign Journalists Reported To Cover Elections

BK2405053990 Hong Kong AFP in English 0531 GMT 24 May 89

[Excerpt] Bangkok, May 24 (AFP)—Burma's military authorities have decided to allow foreign journalists into the country to cover Sunday's [27 May] general elections, Rangoon's embassy said here Thursday.

The poll is the first multi-party elections to be held in secretive Burma in 30 years, but Western diplomats monitoring developments in the Southeast Asian country have questioned assurances by Rangoon's junta that they would be free and fair.

Burmese Embassy official Ye Myint said he expected about 50 visas to be given to foreign journalists to cover the Sunday elections and visit Burma for two weeks. Foreign correspondents have mostly been kept out of Burma by the country's military leadership since General Ne Win took power in a 1962 coup. The policy has been continued by the generals who took power in a September 1988 coup aimed at cracking down on a nationwide pro-democracy movement which had earlier that year forced Gen. Ne Win to step down. [passage omitted]

KIO, DAB Release Statements on Elections

BK2405020390 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 May 90 p 2

[Text] The Kachin Independence Organisation (KIO) yesterday claimed the Rangoon military junta had officially announced it would drop election activity in Injangyan district. In a statement released yesterday, the KIO quoted "reliable sources" as also saying: "Burmese soldiers will vote on behalf of the people of the Kachin State for the National Unity Party (NUP)." It said there were more than 300,000 eligible voters in the state and "the junta claimed that it is for security reasons." The voters are said to be living "in towns and villages along Myitkyina Bhamo, Putao, Hukong car roads; Danai Ting Kok car road; Shwe Bu district; Hpakan and Mohnyin townships; Indawgyi Lake area and along the U Ru river."

Meanwhile, the Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB) also released a statement on May 21, making the following demands:

—National leaders and representatives from all political parties shall be entrusted to form an interim government to hold free and fair elections;
—International observers and the world media be allowed to monitor the general elections;
—All students, youths, and political leaders who are under detention be immediately released and allowed to participate in the general election;
—The election laws are undoubtedly unjust and a new election commission with members who received trust from the contestants and the general public must be established;
—Martial law be removed, and the freedom of the press compatible with democratic principles be allowed;
—It is imperative that internal peace be restored in the country. As long as the military junta continues its war of genocide against the Burmese people, the conducting of free and fair general elections is absolutely impossible.

The statement also said the DAB had expressed these demands in strong terms on several occasions, but "the military junta had bitterly rejected these serious demands and protests." "As the general elections approach, the DAB has witnessed inhuman actions unprecedented in the contemporary history of Burma. Through treacherous and devious methods employed by the Rangoon military junta, it is evident that a puppet government is to come into being."

Intelligence Bureau Reports Arrest of Politicians

BK2405043290 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 23 May 90

[Excerpts] Following reports that youths were being organized and sent to Kyan Hpaing camp in Mizoram State, India, and financial assistance was being provided for the moves, the National Investigation Bureau carried out investigations and arrested U Htoo alias U Tin

Maung Latt, organizer for the League for Democracy and Peace [LDP] in Nyaunglebin Township, No. 5 Ward, Old Pyidaungsu Kyaung Compound, Mayangon Township, on 31 March this year.

According to U Htoo's statement, those involved in organizing and sending youths to the Indian border and in providing financial assistance are Thakin Khin Aung, organizer in charge of central division of the League for Democracy and Peace in Yangon [Rangoon]; Thakin Than Tun Lay; Ko Lay alias Min Lwin, U Tin Ohn, secretary of Bago [Pegu] Township League for Democracy and Peace; U Thaung Tun, joint secretary; Soe Soe alias Soe Win Sein; U Myat Aung; and Si Hein alias Maung Kyi. [passage omitted]

Thakin Khin Aung of No. 62 Chindwin Road, Kamayut and Thakin Than Tun Lay alias Thein Zan alias U Hla Min of Myintha Housing Estate, South Okkalapa, were exposed and arrested on 25 April 1990. U Tin Ohn of No. 155, Fifth Road, North Thaingganaing, Bago, who provided Kyat 3,500 to youths to go to the border and who is LDP secretary in Bago and People's Assembly candidate for Bago constituency-1, was arrested on 24 April 1990. U Thaung Tun, joint secretary of LDP in Bago who lived at U Tin Ohn's residence, was arrested on 4 April 1990 and Ko Lay alias Min Lwin of No. 14, Tagaung Road, Sanchaung, was arrested on 19 May 1990. Advocate Soe Soe alias Soe Win Sein, No. 82 U Bo Road, Kabalone Thingantaik, Kyeemyindaing [Kemmendine], was also arrested on 19 May. Astrologer U Myat Aung of of No. 11, Sixth Lane, Hledan, Kamayut, who introduced two youths to Thakin Than Tun Lay and Si Hein alias Maung Kyi, editor of Nara Thukhi Magazine, No. 32, Kaba-aye Pagoda Road, were exposed and arrested on 15 May 1990.

According to a statement issued by Ko Lay alias Min Lwin during interrogation, the National Revolutionary Front [NRF] was organized at Kyan Hpaing under the leadership of Dr. Zaw Win Aung, and youth members of the NRF went to Yangon and Mandalay for organization work. It was learned that arrangements were made for each member who went underground to receive Kyat 5,000 upon showing a pendant and ring made of Indian silver coin and which bear the picture of a fighting peacock and a star. It was disclosed that while Myanmar [Burmese] youths formed the NRF at the Kyan Hpaing camp, the NRF was formed inside the country in Yangon with the following: Thakin Khin Aung, chairman; Ko Lay alias Min Lwin; and U Htoo alias U Tin Maung Latt and Soe Soe as members.

Ko Lay printed stationery, flags, and arm bands bearing NRF seal and sent them to Kyan Hpaing Camp. The objective of forming the NRF in Yangon was to obtain assistance from foreign embassies in Yangon. During May 1989 contacts were made with four embassies using stationery with the NRF seal. A meeting was held with the ambassador from one of the four embassies contacted during May 1989 at the residence of Thakin Khin Aung. Present at the meeting were Thakin Khin Aung, Ko Lay alias Min Lwin, and Soe Soe.

U Htoo alias U Tin Maung Latt and U Thaung Tun were given sentence according to law on 26 April 1990 for taking part in organizing and sending youths to the Indian border camps, for providing financial assistance, and for illegally forming the National Revolutionary Front. U Tin Ohn was given sentence on 18 May 1990. Action is to be taken against Thakin Khin Aung under Section 10-B. It has been learned that effective action will be taken against Ko Lay alias Min Lwin who returned from the Kyan Hpaing Camp after organizing youths there.

Mon Insurgents Attack Train, Wound Four People

BK2305144390 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Insurgents have been hampering and disrupting peace and tranquillity and planting mines and ambushing trains with the aim of maiming and killing commuters. As a result, the passenger train, which left Ye for Mawlamyine [Moulmein] at 0820 today, came under attack at about 0935 when it was about one mile from (Tapun) railway station.

About 20 NMSP [New Mon State Party] insurgents who had taken up positions on both sides of the rail tracks fired on the train for about 10 minutes with an RPG launcher [preceding two words in English] and small arms before retreating eastward. The attack wounded four persons, it was learned. Authorities concerned have sent those wounded—engine driver U Hein Sein, mechanic U Tin Win, Maung Tun Yi of (Phanauk) village, and Daw Khin Po of Hnit Kayin village—to the Mawlamyine Hospital for treatment.

As soon as the news of the attack was received, a Defense Services column started pursuing the fleeing insurgents. Thanks to the collective efforts of the responsible officials of the Myanmar [Burma] Railways and members of the law and order restoration councils in Ye and Lamine, the train continued its journey to Mawlamyine at 1412 today.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Singapore

Lee Kuan Yew on Europe, U.S. Role in Asia

PM2105112290 Paris LE MONDE in French 20-21 May 90 p 5

[Interview with Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew in Singapore; date not given]

[Text] Singapore—[Pomonti] What is your message to the Europeans?

[Lee Kuan Yew] I am not going to Europe with a message. I want to see how the European leaders view the future following last year's historic changes. Europe will comprise not only a bigger Germany but also stronger internal structures. What will be the contents of this political unity? Will it mean common foreign and defense policies? Will the Americans have a place in a renewed or reshaped NATO, or will security be the province of the 35 CSCE countries? How will Eastern Europe be linked to the EEC? If there is a peaceful outcome to glasnost and perestroyka, what place will the Soviet Union have?

My talks will give me an idea of what awaits the Asia and Pacific area because Europe will define the new contours of the world balance. If, for instance, the Americans are not invited to participate in the defense of the new Europe, there will be a greater chance the United States will return to isolationism and reduce its involvement in Asia. That would be a very negative development.

[Pomonti] Do you expect Europe to become more insular?

[Lee Kuan Yew] I do not think that is the case. Political union requires success in the policy toward Eastern Europe and the poor Mediterranean countries. Therefore, the political leaders' attention will be focused on the immediate problems because that is what the policy requires. However, in market economies, industrialists and entrepreneurs must invest where there is the most profit. To some extent, the governments can increase business for the benefit of Eastern Europe, but I have every reason to believe there will still be interest in the rapidly growing Asian economies.

[Pomonti] How do you view China's future?

[Lee Kuan Yew] China is a separate case. Of course, the events in Eastern Europe and the USSR affect everybody in China—grass-roots organizations, leaders, and the population. This is because since 1949 they have been told these were fraternal countries. Suddenly, their brothers have gone in search of a better life, freedom, a market economy, and free, multiparty elections. So, the Chinese must wonder about the wisdom of a line that so many other countries have abandoned. In the economic sphere, even under the "post-Tienanmen" leadership, we can observe a change. In the past few months, the Chinese have radically resumed the policies which Zhao Ziyang implemented. They were moving toward recession. In the political sphere, however, I do not expect any change until the veterans of the "Long March" have left the stage.

[Pomonti] In the long term, therefore, are you counting on China's integration into Asia?

[Lee Kuan Yew] Undoubtedly. The Chinese have no choice.

[Pomonti] Would you say the same about Vietnam?

[Lee Kuan Yew] Yes, it is the same problem. The thinking of the Vietnamese veterans who fought the French and then the Americans has fossilized. They cannot envisage a change. But the youngest—some are already in their sixties—know where they are going. They want to rebuild. Of course, this is not easy.

[Pomonti] What do you say to the people of Hong Kong?

[Lee Kuan Yew] They must accept the reality of power, which means that the last word—regarding Hong Kong in 1997 - - rests with China. Even if Hong Kong is given full democratic rights, an elected Assembly, and an elected government, it is not a sovereign country. In an emergency, its government can be suspended, just as the mayor of Marseilles could be, for instance. Thus, the only realistic approach is to negotiate with the center. I have suggested that the 250,000 main families should reach agreement to enable them to leave if things turn out badly. First, though, they must organize so they can leave if necessary. Beijing may agree to negotiate for them to remain, but it will not conduct political negotiations with a subordinate part of China. The Western press, particularly the American press based in Hong Kong, does not understand the Chinese central government's mentality.

The Japanese Are Not the Germans

[Pomonti] What is your viewpoint on Cambodia?

[Lee Kuan Yew] The Western press thinks the Khmer Rouge should be destroyed. That is unrealistic. For almost 12 years, between 150,000 and 160,000 Vietnamese were unable to do it. Why should we believe that if the United Nations refuses to recognize the Khmer Rouge they will disappear? Even if Prince Sihanouk and Mr Son Sann join with Mr. Hun Sen, and if the whole world recognizes their new government, the problem will continue to exist. The best solution—and I am not sure that the fighting will stop—is to group them all in an interim administration controlled by the United Nations and to hold free elections. If the Khmer Rouge do not win the election, China will be able to stop supporting them without losing face. The Khmer Rouge will then have to decide whether or not to continue fighting with the weapons they already have. The legitimate elected government will perhaps be able to persuade most of the Khmer Rouge to participate peacefully in public life. Some Khmer Rouge may refuse, and fighting will continue at a lower level. This is the best scenario I can imagine.

[Pomonti] Does this require an agreement between Hanoi and Beijing?

[Lee Kuan Yew] Of course, and I think we will achieve that this year or next year. Hanoi wants to devote itself to rebuilding. So does Beijing. But the veterans of the Long Marches on both sides are still in place. They have suffered for so long. What are one, two, or three more years in their eyes? They think in those terms.

[Pomonti] You have offered the Americans military facilities. Why?

[Lee Kuan Yew] I am offering bases to the Americans because the Philippines are complaining of being alone in bearing the political burden of the presence of U.S. bases. This burden prevents them from joining the nonaligned movement and classes them in the group of countries portrayed as appendages of the United States, reawakening nationalist feelings inside the country. Of course, it is their national interests that will determine negotiations on the renewal of the lease on the U.S. bases.

[Pomonti] Do you want the Americans to remain in Southeast Asia?

[Lee Kuan Yew] Yes. There is no balance of forces in Asia. The former balance was colonial, between France, Britain, the Netherlands, America, and China. During World War II, the Japanese defeated everyone. Then the Americans defeated the Japanese. The French, British, and Dutch then tried to return. They had to abandon that aim. What balance has there been since then? The Soviets and Chinese arrived. If the Americans go, the Japanese will come. Where will we be then? Have we learned nothing? Why not maintain the existing balance? Japan's economic and diplomatic initiatives benefit Asia provided Japan remains a U.S. partner in a strategic alliance and provided the U.S. nuclear umbrella extends over the whole region. If Japan leaves that partnership, everything will be different.

[Pomonti] What worries you most?

[Lee Kuan Yew] In Europe, the Germans are accepting responsibility for their history, the new generation of Germans has grown up with an awareness of the past. There is no equivalent in Asia. Most of the current Japanese leaders do not want Japan to play its own cards again. They prefer to keep the present type of relations, which are comfortable for them and the rest of Asia. But a new generation will take over in the next 10 years. They do not have the same level of awareness.

Economy Expected To Grow by 8 Percent in 1990

BK2305114790 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 23 May 90 p 1

[Text] The Singapore economy is likely to grow by about 8 percent this year, said Mr Mah Bow Tan, Minister of State (communications and information and trade & industry).

Briefing the press yesterday on Singapore's first-quarter economic performance, Mr Mah said the overall economic growth rate for this year would probably be at the high end of the 6- to 8-percent range forecast by economic planners. Nevertheless, it was still "too early" to make changes to the Ministry of Trade and Industry's [MTI] original economic forecast. He said a better indication of the annual growth rate would surface when the second quarter's economic performance was known.

Figures released by MTI showed that the economy expanded by some 10.1 percent between January and March, led by the financial and business services sector. Contributing to this growth was a 17-percent rise in external demand and a 7.2-percent expansion in domestic demand. Total employment grew by 14,100 while labour productivity grew 5.6 percent compared to 4.5 percent a year ago. The first quarter's better-than-expected expansion, Mr Mah said, was clearly "not sustainable" as it exceeded the 4- to 6-percent growth rate which Singapore can achieve "in the long run given our resources".

A spurt in output in the petrochemical industry contributed a large part to the economy's robust first-quarter expansion. This spurt was in turn due to petrochemical plant shut-downs for maintenance during the first quarter of last year. Mr Mah said there were indications that Singapore's economic growth this year would be slower than last year's 9.2 percent. These included the expected slowdown in the economic growth of Singapore's major trading partners such as the United States.

On what the first-quarter growth meant for wage negotiations, especially in view of the NWC (National Wages Council) guidelines which will be announced over the next week, Mr Mah advised continued caution in containing costs here. Although the other newly industrialising economies—Hong Kong, South Korea and Taiwan—also saw large wage increases, it was important to keep Singapore's absolute costs low and hence, attractive to investors. "We should not be complacent... we should watch our own competitiveness," he said.

Looking ahead, Mr Mah said business sentiment here continued to be bullish. The latest survey of business expectations of the manufacturing sector showed that more firms were optimistic about general business conditions from April to September.

Reportage on Prime Minister's Visit to France

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For reportage on the visit by Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew to France, the Federal Republic of Germany, and the United Kingdom, please see the France, Federal Republic of Germany, and United Kingdom sections in the 21 May West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Cambodia

Government Said Ready for UN Role in Elections

BK2405031890 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1100 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] The Cambodian Government is ready to delegate to the United Nations the rights to fully organize and supervise elections in the country and will abide by any outcome of the elections. This remark was made in an interview with PRAVDA by Comrade Hor Nam Hong, assistant minister for foreign and judicial affairs to the chairman of Cambodia's Council of Ministers. Comrade Hor Nam Hong noted that the organization of free and just elections was the groundwork of a settlement of the Cambodian problem.

Moscow Views SRV Role in Cambodian Situation

BK2405110990 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1100 GMT 23 May 90

[Aleksey Nikolayev commentary]

[Text] Comrade Nguyen Co Thach, Vietnam's minister of foreign affairs, during a stopover in Bangkok following his tour of Western countries, considered the Vietnam-China consultations in Beijing a success. Comrade Nguyen Co Thach's statement also showed that Hanoi and Beijing had made headway in bringing together their stances on the Cambodian solution.

Comrade Aleksey Nikolayev in his commentary on this topic, said: It is evident in our interdependent world that relations between two countries will always affect their neighboring countries and the international sphere in one way or another. Among the latest examples we can cite are the bid to normalize Sino-Soviet relations. This event seems to have injected a new impetus on positive moves in the region. One can say it has also favorably influenced the improvement in relations between China and Vietnam.

During a meeting in Moscow with the Chinese foreign minister, Comrade Eduard Shevardnadze, minister of foreign affairs of the Soviet Union, expressed firm confidence that an early normalization of Sino-Vietnamese relations would help sanitize the situation in Southeast Asia. First of all, there is the prospect of a solution to the Cambodian issue, a conflict that has fouled the situation in the region for years, seriously upsetting relations among neighboring countries. Everyone knows the Sino-Vietnamese confrontation stemmed from the fact that Beijing supports the forces opposed to the Phnom Penh government, a protege of Hanoi. The withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia last September seems to have given the normalization of Sino-Vietnamese relations a chance to accelerate. Nevertheless, the Cambodian conflict continues to exist. Consequently, this conflict is not due to the Vietnamese troop presence at all.

The restoration of peace in Cambodia calls for a compromise among the parties involved in the political solution, including China and Vietnam. A turning point for the better seems to have taken place lately. According to Comrade Nguyen Co Thach, Vietnam and China have accepted the agreement on the formation of a supreme national council between Comrade Hun Sen and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. This body would symbolize Cambodia's sovereignty and national reconciliation and would be represented by both the Phnom Penh government and the government in exile. Comrade Nguyen Co Thach went on to say the two sides also supported Bangkok's proposal on ending the Cambodian conflict as well as the role of the United Nations in solving that conflict.

Observers have focussed on the BANGKOK POST report that Comrade Hun Sen, Samdech Sihanouk, and Khieu Samphan had already decided to sign a cease-fire agreement and that an official announcement of this decision would be made at the Tokyo meeting. It is believed that everything does not depend on that alone, but also on the cessation of foreign military aid to the warring parties. Such a decision might be taken in a tripartite meeting between Vietnam, China, and Thailand. The Vietnamese foreign minister in Bangkok has once again confirmed that the Vietnamese side has already voiced support for the idea of holding these talks.

Men Sam-an, Delegation Visit Kratie Province

Visit Sambo District 16 May

BK2205052490 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] On 16 May, a party-state delegation led by Comrade Mrs. Men Sam-an, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of Central Organization Commission, visited and presented gifts to cadres, personnel, and authorities in Sambo District of Kratie Province.

After hearing a report on developments in the district, Mrs. Men Sam-an said that in the previous regimes, the people in Sambo District, who are mostly peasants, suffered all kinds of shortages and difficulties. Under our current regime, people's livelihood—morally and materially—has been improved. She also expressed satisfaction over the contributions made by the authorities and people in Sambo District in strengthening villages and communes.

Mrs. Men Sam-an also exhorted party and state authorities in the district to continue persuading the people to join in local defense and construction by doing their best to consolidate the people's confidence in the party-state leadership and improve their livelihood. She also urged them to pay more attention to building real forces in all localities for serving as a strong and effective prop in the national defense and construction movement.

Visit Prek Prasap 18 May

BK2205072290 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 21 May 90

[Summary] "Comrade Mrs. Men Sam-an, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Central Organization Commission, visited and distributed gifts to administrators, inhabitants, elders, and Buddhist monks of Saom Commune, Prek Prasap

District, Kratie Province, on 18 May. She was accompanied by Comrade Mrs. Ho Non, member of the party Central Committee and minister of industry; Comrade Kang Nem, alternate member of the party Central Committee and first vice chairman of the Central Organization Commission; Comrade Van Sun-heng, deputy director general of the Radio Voice of the Cambodian People; Comrade Thoek Kroeunvuttha, secretary of the Kratie Province Party Committee; and Comrade Nu Thoeung, chairman of the Kratie Province People's Committee."

In her speech, Comrade Mrs. Men Sam-an informed the local people of the development of the motherland over the past 11 years. After condemning the Polpotists and their allies for committing heinous crimes against the people in the border of provinces of Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, and Siem Reap following last September's complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops, she briefed her interlocutors on a number of important tasks that the party, authorities, and people must carry out.

Son Sann Discusses Tokyo Talks, Big Five

BK2305135390 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 1100 GMT 23 May 90

[Station correspondent's interview with Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front and prime minister of the National Government of Cambodia; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] I am a representative of the Radio Voice of the Khmer. My respects to your excellency president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front. Please, allow me to ask you a few questions. They are as follows:

First, I am certain that listeners of the Radio Voice of the Khmer both in the zone under the control of the Cambodian resistance forces and in the zone under the control of the Vietnamese-Heng Samrin regime are anxious to know what progress the search for a solution to the Cambodian problem has made so far. Can you tell them what stage the search for the Cambodian solution has reached?

[Son Sann] I am glad you say our brothers both in the interior of the country and along the border anxiously await news about the talks to achieve an early peace for Cambodia. You know, the sole purpose of all my actions is based on the knowledge that our people in the country are miserable and want peace. I therefore would like to inform all our compatriots that in the next few days—on 25 May to be exact—the Big Five will meet again in New York after holding three similar talks before in order to stimulate some progress in the search for a solution to our Cambodian problem. Another piece of good news is that there will also be a meeting in Japan soon. This meeting, made at the invitation of Japan and at the initiative of Thailand, is aimed at resolving the Cambodian problem among Cambodians. I have learned that on the Phnom Penh side, Hun Sen is going to attend the meeting. On our side, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk has said he is going, and I am going too.

[Correspondent] Can you tell us how much hope you have on the Tokyo meeting for early next month?

[Son Sann] I am optimistic, yes. However, I cannot be so alone. The Big Five countries have already told us they are making efforts to solve the Cambodian problem. They said that Cambodians must also help in the process; Cambodians must also agree with one another. My opinion is that the Tokyo meeting is very important, for it is where Cambodians will try to solve their own problem among themselves. Therefore, so the meeting can bear fruit, I would like to make a few requests.

First of all, I would like to ask that Cambodians stop killing fellow Cambodians. Cambodians of all sides should stop killing each other. I also ask those who hire Vietnamese to kill Cambodians to stop doing so. If these persons have so much money to hire the Vietnamese they should keep that money for national reconstruction. It is more useful if the money is used to help relieve our Cambodian people. When the war ends and peace returns, we will certainly need to rebuild our country. This is my first request. I also request that youths, students, and young people who engaged in work and farming not be forcibly drafted into the army and forced to die. We need all our young people who are our future for national reconstruction. I beg all responsible authorities to listen to my request.

My second request, made so our hope fulfilled, is that all brothers must help protect our cultural heritage, antiques, natural riches, timber, minerals, fish, rubber, and others. This is because we will soon have peace and be reunited for national reconstruction. If we let these resources be stolen, destroyed, or looted, what means will we have left to rapidly rebuild our country?

Third, I beg all brothers to put an end to corrupt practices and stop oppressing our compatriots. I would like to tell you—and don't get mad at me—that if you refuse to amend and keep being corrupt and mistreating the people, you should beware, for the people are the voters. At election time, they will not vote for you. I am all right because I have not done what you did. Any brothers who do not do the right thing and who are not clean, should mend their ways. I beg you to clean up your acts, for in the future we will need clean people to run the country. I have already told you if you refuse to correct yourselves and continue to be corrupt, the people will not elect you. If you fail to get elected, I believe our country suffers a loss because you are capable of doing the work and of bringing prosperity to the country. That is my third request.

Fourth, in order to create an atmosphere conducive to reconciliation, I request that all prisoners, be they military or civilian, who are now under detention, sometimes for no reason at all, be unconditionally released. I beg that all of them be released. On my side, I will also release prisoners. This is to create a good atmosphere for reconciliation. We need reconciliation. As I have repeatedly stated, Cambodia faces calamity, the enemy infiltrates us, and we lose our independence when Cambodians are divided. Now that we are on the verge of restoring our independence, we therefore must be reconciled with one another. Let bygones be bygones. Forget old grudges. In the days to come we will be reconciled. All Cambodians without exception will be reconciled. For this reason, I beg that all military as well as civilian prisoners be released.

If all my requests are fulfilled, I think a good atmosphere will permeate the inter-Cambodian meeting in Tokyo. My desire is to see peace return to our country as soon as possible so we can engage in national reconstruction, so our Buddhist religion flourishes, and so all our people enjoy peace and full freedoms.

[Correspondent] Thank you, Mr. President. Before concluding, do you have anything else to say to our Buddhist monks and compatriots?

[Son Sann] My respects to venerable monks and dear compatriots. According to my observation, I see that countries friendly to us, such as ASEAN, the Big Five, and Australia, have been making great efforts to help us. Now we see Thailand and Japan helping us. They are not only helping to bring peace back, but maybe also to rebuild our country in the future. I am very confident of that. For the moment, though, whether we have peace or not depends on all Cambodians. If we Cambodians are understanding and compromising toward one another in Tokyo and make the Tokyo meeting a success, when the Big Five meet again they will ask for a meeting to be held with all four Cambodian factions. If good results come of that—and I expect it—there will be another, final conference in Paris.

VODK on Heng Samrin 'Concessions,' SRV

BK2205044590 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 21 May 90

[Station commentary: "Has Vietnam Made Any Concession Regarding the Cambodian Problem?"]

[Text] Recently, the Hanoi authorities ordered their puppet, Heng Samrin, to brag about his side's readiness to make more concessions in order to settle the Cambodian problem. However, he still refused to dissolve the Vietnamese puppet regime in Phnom Penh and to accept UN control on Cambodia. People have asked this question: Has Vietnam made any concession when in fact it has kept rejecting the dissolution of the Vietnamese puppet regime in Phnom Penh, which is the key to achieving national reconciliation for organizing a free, democratic, and fair election, that is for ending the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia through political means?

Everyone knows the puppet regime in Phnom Penh is 100 percent dominated by the Vietnamese. The Vietnamese control, manage, command, and carry out the political, diplomatic, economic, and all other affairs in the puppet ministries and departments at all levels both in Phnom Penh and all other localities. Particularly, at present when the puppet administration in villages and communes is being dismantled and the provincial and Phnom Penh administration is becoming increasingly unstable, the Hanoi authorities have sent more Vietnamese troops to assist and control the administration. At the same time, the Vietnamese have used the handful of Cambodian puppets, such as Heng Samrin and Hun Sen, only in echoing and carrying out their orders and as a smokescreen to conceal the presence of the aggressor Vietnamese forces in Cambodia. In addition to the Vietnamese agents implanted in the puppets' civil administration, over 30,000 Vietnamese troops in puppet soldiers' uniforms are mingling among members of the puppet army. Tens of thousands of other Vietnamese forces are in hiding in jungles throughout Cambodia. Moreover, there are over 1 million Vietnamese immigrants who have been armed, organized politically, and given Cambodian nationality in preparation for the election in Cambodia.

The Vietnamese enemies have refused to dissolve the puppet regime because they are afraid the hidden Vietnamese forces in Cambodia will be exposed and they will no longer be able to control Cambodia. If the Vietnamese puppet regime in Phnom Penh still exists, Vietnam can continue to hide these aggressor forces in Cambodia. In other words, it can further occupy Cambodia. Since Vietnam still maintains its control over all of Cambodia, how can the Cambodian problem be resolved? How can there be national reconciliation? How can there be a free and democratic election?

Therefore, puppet Heng Samrin's bragging about concessions at Vietnam's order is just another deceitful maneuver aimed at relaxing world's condemnation that Vietnam has stubbornly continued its occupation of Cambodia and that it has obstructed the political settlement of the Cambodian problem.

The world must have clearly seen that Vietnam has not softened its stance nor made any concession regarding the settlement of the Cambodian problem. Therefore, the world community will certainly continue pressuring the aggressor Hanoi authorities until they are compelled to withdraw all their aggressor forces from Cambodia under the supervision of the United Nations and the four Cambodian groups. They will pressure them until they dissolve the puppet regime they have installed in Cambodia in order to settle the Cambodian problem comprehensively, fairly, and permanently through political means.

KPNLF Officials Form Separate Political Party

BK2405011990 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 May 90 p 2

[Text] The commander of the US-backed Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] and nine other senior officials yesterday announced the formation of a separate political party in an apparent break with other Front leaders.

General Sak Sutsakhan, commander-in-chief of the KPNLF, said he has set up a new political party called the "Liberal Democracy Party" with the intention of participating in future elections. The commander formally declared the formation of the party to cheering residents of the Site-2 refugee camp about 215 km east of Bangkok. He said party members included deputy commander Gen. Dien Del and Thu Thun, the civilian leader of more than 140,000 Cambodian refugees in Site-2, along with seven other senior KPNLF officials. He said the party policy is to promote liberty, democracy, union, unity and fairness. He said the party would participate in general elections that are expected to follow a political settlement to the 11-year-old Cambodian conflict. The establishment of the party formalised a three-year-old split in the KPNLF between most military commanders and Front leader, former Prime Minister Son Sann.

In Bangkok, Ieng Muli, a senior official close to Son Sann, said he was unaware of the formation of the new party. "I think it's too early for them because the conflict has not been settled. We still have no constitution," Muli said. He said the new party may want to split away from the Son Sann-led faction of the Front. "It's not necessary for them to set up a new party as the KPNLF is a democratic party. They should not have done it," he said.

The two factions within the Front have generally gone their separate ways with Sak Sutsakhan and his followers carrying out the military struggle while Son Sann directed political and diplomatic activities.

The KPNLF, along with a second Cambodian resistance group headed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, receives about $7 million in "non-lethal aid" from the United States each year. Military supplies and weapons are provided by Singapore and China and funnelled through Thailand.

VONADK Cites Casualties on Treng-Route 10

BK2405002490 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Between 10 and 16 May, our national resistance forces routed the Vietnamese enemies and puppets who confronted us from O Andong, Phnum Sar, Kirichup, Tronoap Pheh, and Lu Bei to Chhaeuteal Puoy on Treng-Route 10 battlefield, killing 196 Vietnamese and puppet soldiers, including a regimental commander and three company commanders, and wounding 218 others. We destroyed 41 AK's, four RPK machine guns, six B-40 rocket launchers, nine B-41 rocket launchers, an 80-mm mortar, and some war materiel. We also seized 29 assorted guns and a quantity of war equipment.

Philippines

Further Reportage on Outcome of Bases Talks

Manglapus Clarifies Results

HK2405022790 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0130 GMT 24 May 90

[From "Malacanang Information Service"]

[Text] The recently-concluded exploratory talks between the Philippines and the United States paved the way for the future discussions between the two countries which may or may not lead to a new treaty on the U.S. military bases in the country. This was gathered yesterday through separate interviews with Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus and Health Secretary Alfredo Bengzon, chairman and co-chairman respectively of the Philippine panel.

Secretary Manglapus said that the discussions would be on the future of Philippine-U.S. relations. Manglapus also said that diverse interpretations in the media have prompted him to issue clarifications on the outcome of the talks and nature of the forthcoming discussions. He stressed that the talks were concluded with both sides emerging as winners. For the Philippines, he said, the talks have accomplished two things especially. One, the government has been able to serve its notice of termination of the 1947 military bases agreement [MBA] which governs the tenure of the bases. And two, the shortfall in the U.S. compensation package was met during the negotiations.

Should no treaty be signed after 1991, Manglapus said, both countries would move toward a smooth transition, custody, and control of facilities under the Manglapus-Shultz Agreement of 1988 upon final termination of the MBA. Secretary Manglapus added that the government will take appropriate measures to take over the bases.

Secretary Bengzon, on the other hand, said that the future discussions will focus on the new relationship forged between the Philippines and the U.S. after the old one ended with the serving of the termination notice. Bengzon also clarified that the joint technical committee, which was created following the exploratory talks, will ensure the full implementation of the memorandum of agreement on the new assistance package pledged by the United States to cover the shortfall.

Manglapus also expressed the view that, quote: It is time for us to move on and complete the process of drawing up alternative uses for the base lands in the event of a pullout. He added that the government is devoting its energies to the formulation of base conversion plans, although the joint executive-legislative council plans will be completed before September of this year.

Meanwhile, the president's committee on the bases is set to meet with the president tomorrow to discuss a possible agenda for the forthcoming discussions.

'Crossed Signals' Cited

HK2405051990 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 24 May 90 pp 1, 2

[By reporters Jose Macaspac III, Ros Manlangit, Mary Eileen Paat, and Jessica Domingo]

[Text] Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Leticia Ramos-Shahani yesterday said that she believed Malacanang and the Philippine bases panel had been sending out crossed signals on the bases issue and should therefore "get their act together" to strengthen the Philippine position in the next bases talks.

At the same time, members of the Joint Legislative-Executive Bases Review Panel said they were targetting P[pesos]150-P250 billion in proceeds from the sale of military camps in Metro Manila when these military bases are transferred to Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base as part of the baselands conversion program.

About 3,000 base workers from Clark and Subic are scheduled to hold a motorcade rally from Angeles, Pampanga to the Senate in Manila to impress on the senators their interest in the extension of the stay of American military facilities whether under a treaty or under an executive agreement. The Senate is the congressional chamber empowered with ratifying treaties.

Meanwhile, the left-wing Alex Boncayao Brigade [ABB], suspected by the military as an urban terrorist group of the Communist Party of the Philippines, yesterday condemned the bases exploratory talks as a farce. In a press statement on the eve of its 6th founding anniversary, the ABB said last week's talks were actually a haggling for the bases compensation done in a traitorous manner by the Aquino regime. "The bases are simply symbols of American imperialism which shows that the Philippines has not gone far in freeing itself from the claws of foreign domination. They serve as a tombstone of our sovereignty and national dignity," said the statement which was released yesterday to media organizations.

"Frankly, I don't know what they really mean," Shahani said in an interview, obviously referring to the "confusing statement issued by Executive Secretary Catalino Macaraig Jr and Health Secretary Alfredo Bengzon. Macaraig was reportedly quoted as saying that the subject of the negotiation was a treaty while Bengzon stated that the term "agreement" which came out in reports is a "negotiated terminology that can mean a treaty, an executive agreement or even a verbal agreement."

Also, Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus yesterday said there was no need for a treaty to effect the withdrawal of the U.S. bases after the September 16, 1991 expiration date as the existing Military Bases Agreement only requires the two countries to undertake joint arrangements for the phaseout and for eventual takeover by the Philippine government of the bases facilities. This situation will arise, Manglapus told reporters in Malacanang, if no new treaty allowing the U.S. military facilities to stay is not negotiated on or before the termination date.

However, President Aquino had been repeatedly quoted after the bases exploratory talks that her position followed the Constitutional provision which states that no foreign troops shall be allowed in the country after 1991 except by a treaty concurred in by the Senate and if Congress so requires ratified by the people in a plebiscite.

Shahani said Philippine panel spokesman Rafael Alunan should immediately clarify the terminologies used. For example, Shahani said, if they talk about compensation they should explain whether or not they are also talking about extension of the American's stay in the facilities in the country. Shahani had been pushing for a phaseout of the bases which meant giving the Americans a reasonable amount of time to pull out their troops and dismantle their facilities. Shahani however stressed that the program for the alternative uses of the bases should be finalized so that the country would not be caught flatfooted when the Americans leave the bases.

For his part, Senator John Osmena said Congress should in the meantime act as a mere "kibitzer." He said the Philippine panel would be at a disadvantage whenever Congress started throwing questions to the government on the bases. He said this would only expose prematurely the Philippine "card" to the U.S. panel.

Osmena, who is pro-bases, said that the bases issue should not be treated as political. He stressed that the matter should be treated as a mere real estate transaction. "It is a landlord-tenant relationship. If they don't want to pay what we demand from them to pay for the use of the bases, they should leave," he said.

Manglapus cited Article VII Paragraph 3 of the Manglapus-Shultz Agreement in 1988 which he read to reporters. The particular item reads:

"Upon final termination of the use by the government of the United States of the facilities or earlier relinquishment, the United States and the Republic of the Philippines will take appropriate measures that they should jointly determine to ensure a smooth transition with respect to the custody and control of the facilities and in order to avoid any disruptive effects of such termination."

This mean, Manglapus said, that if and when there is no visible hope for the approval of a treaty extending the stay of the U.S. military facilities in the bases "we shall enter into consultations with the U.S. in order to ensure a smooth transition with respect to the custody and control of the facilities (by the Philippines)."

Manglapus however would not give any idea how the two countries will conduct such phaseout or turnover arrangements.

Administration officials including Manglapus yesterday refused to be categorical whether the next round of talks between the bases would be a treaty negotiation. Asked about the prospects of a new treaty, Manglapus said: "That is a question to which I can have an adequate answer only if and when we sit down and discuss the future of Philippine-American relations."

Bengzon, who was the No. 2 man in the Philippine panel next to Manglapus in last week's exploratory talks, also said that the next discussions will not necessarily lead to a new treaty. "Discussions need not lead to negotiations, negotiations do not automatically lead to a new treaty."

Presidential Spokesman Adolf Azcuna for his part said his interpretation is that the next round of talks will be a "treaty negotiation," a view espoused the other day by Macaraig, head of the presidential committee on the bases. Azcuna however said the differing views of officials were a problem of terminologies and not substantial. President Aquino, he said, has decided to leave to the RP panel all questions about interpretations of the nature of the forthcoming round of talks.

Congressman Jose de Venecia Jr. (LDP [Struggle of Philippine Democrats], Pangasinan), a member of the Joint Legislative-Executive Bases Review Panel, said it is considering three alternatives for the conversion of the baselands. These alternatives are outright sale of the lands, leasehold arrangement, or joint ventures with the developers, or a combination of any of the options. He said the technical committee of the panel will study which option will give the government the most returns. Venecia said about 23 consultants are helping to conduct the feasibility study. He added that the study will be completed within 60 days.

The committee proposes to transfer the two military camps, including the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) to Clark Air Base (CAB). Earlier, the panel said a set of guidelines will be drawn up to guide the sale of the properties in both Villamor and Bonifacio.

Editorial on Sovereignty Issue

HK2305043390 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 23 May 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Even With Treaty, Government Must Uphold Sovereignty"]

[Text] After so much hemming and hawing, it is clear as day the administration wants the U.S. bases to stay. For five days last week, Philippine negotiators went through the routine of declaring the need to redefine Philippine-American relations in the context of mutual respect, mutual need and mutual benefit. Tourism Undersecretary Rafael Alunan III, spokesman of the Philippine panel, stressed over and over again that any new accord that might be forged in future talks would not deal exclusively with the bases but also encompass every aspect of the relationship—friendship, cooperation and security.

For a moment, the Philippine panel even talked tough, warning its U.S. counterpart that future relations would be jeopardized unless Washington came across with the $222.58-million shortfall in this year's compensation package. But in the end, it accepted the U.S. pledge to look for ways to cover the deficiency with surplus military equipment, medical supplies, food aid, etc.

With the compensation issue taking center stage, everything else was relegated to the backseat, including the most basic ones like the nuclear menace and criminal jurisdiction over cases involving U.S. servicemen. Wittingly or unwittingly, the negotiators succeeded in skirting these thorny and fundamental concerns by using up their time exploring modes of ensuring full payment for the use of the bases. And now, both sides are looking forward to the second round of talks, which would lay the groundwork for further negotiations to flesh out the details of a new treaty.

Having abandoned its open-options policy, the least the administration can do is ensure that any agreement to be forged in the future fully reflects and asserts the national interest, sovereignty and independence.

As Alunan has suggested, a treaty modelled after the 1976 agreement between the U.S. and Spain commends itself for serious consideration. Under this treaty, Spain allows the U.S. to use several bases over a period of five years in exchange for a fixed compensation spread over the period of the lease. However, the treaty, ratified by the U.S. Senate, bans the storage of nuclear weapons and gives Spain a large degree of control over base areas and the number of troops stationed there.

A similar agreement would essentially satisfy the constitutional requirements for the continued use of the U.S. facilities in the Philippines—ratification by both the Philippine and U.S. Senates and the ban on nuclear weapons—and remove serious flaws in the current RP[Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement.

Philippine negotiators, however, should also insist on eliminating certain features from the Spain-U.S. treaty that the growing national consensus considers objectionable, especially the provision allowing for further extension of the lease. In other words, a new treaty must have a fixed, non-renewable term of at most five years. This will guarantee that the extension period will be employed in the orderly phaseout of the bases and preparing the base areas for more productive uses.

On the matter of compensation in case of an extension, the government should seek the right mix of money and goods that would not only enhance self-reliance in national defense but also fairly compensate people and places affected by the presence and eventual absence of the bases.

Soviet Union Favors Bases Phaseout Treaty

HK2305093490 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0700 GMT 23 May 90

[By Rey Arquiza]

[Text] The Soviet Embassy in Makati today announced they are in favor of a phaseout treaty between the Philippines and the United States with regards to the latters military bases in the country.

Soviet Embassy First Secretary Yuriy Raykov disclosed that the Soviet Union's position on foreign bases is for these to be dismantled by the year 2000. According to Raykov, the U.S. military bases in the Philippines impend the peace in the Asia-Pacific region, adding that the Soviet Union had already reduced its troops in the region. However, Raykov stressed that the issue of the U.S. bases is a bilateral affair between the Philippines and the U.S., and the Soviet Union does not want to meddle in the scheduled talks to forge a new treaty. The Soviet Embassy's reaction came after Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus said that a phaseout treaty may be reached between the Philippines and the United States.

Vigilante Groups To Be Formed Around Clark

HK2405045990 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 24 May 90 pp 1, 16

[By Jerry Lacuarta]

[Text] Angeles City—Vigilante groups will be formed in communities around Clark Air Base amid reports that the New People's Army (NPA) has threatened to kill more U.S. soldiers and civilian personnel.

Formation of the vigilante groups was mapped out this week by businessmen during a meeting sponsored by the Angeles City Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCCI). Some military officials, led by Lt. Col. [Lieutenant Colonel] Julius Yarcia, Angeles City Metropolitan District Command (Metrodiscom) chief, also attended the meeting.

Local businessmen here and in neighboring Mabalacat town announced that they will give P[pesos]500,000 to anybody who can give information leading to the capture of the killers of two U.S. servicemen, John Raven and James Green, who were slain in Dau, near Clark, last May 13.

The military identified two suspects in the killing of Raven and Green as Allan Gutierrez, alias "Ka [Comrade] Tom," and Gonzalo Bondoc, alias "Ka Ros." The military said the plans to kill the Americans were hatched two months ago on Mt. Arayat by three NPA leaders, identified as Alex Capitulo, alias "Ka Dhey," Pampanga NPA chieftain; Noli Paneza, alias "Ka Jerome," head of the Pampanga NPA central district; and Alejandro Arceo, alias "Ka Aring," chief of the NPA Mariano Garcia Brigade (MGB). The MGB is the NPA's "Death Squad" which operates around Clark. It claimed responsibility for the killing of three American airmen on Oct. 28, 1987, the ambush-slaying of two U.S. civilian personnel of Ford Aerospace in Capas, Tarlac, on Sept. 26, 1989, and the murder of Raven and Green. Capitulo has been captured by troopers but the other suspects are still at large. They were charged before the provincial prosecutor with double murder with illegal possession of firearms.

The proposed vigilante groups, to be patterned after Davao City's "Alsa Masa," [People's Uprising] will fight communist rebels in the communities near Clark, including this city and Mabalacat.

The businessmen said they have been losing a lot since the May 13 killing of the two Americans in the wake of unconfirmed reports that Clark officials have declared Angeles, Mabalacat, and other communities near the base "off-limits" to their men.

Some businessmen said they will pool their resources to support the operations of the vigilante groups whose members will have guns, uniforms, allowances, and food. They said members will be recruited from local residents and rebel-returnees.

Yarcia said he will endorse the plan to Brig. Gen. [Brigadier General] Manuel Bruan, Central Luzon PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] regional commander.

Reportage Continues on Bombings, Bomb Threats

Rebel Soldiers Deny Role

HK2305102390 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0700 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] The Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino people issued a statement denying accusations blaming them for explosions and placing bombs in some Metro Manila buildings in the past few days. According to a person identifying himself as Army 1st Lieutenant Ruben Sangalang, alleged spokesman for the Young Officers Union [YOU], these activities can only ruin their objective to uplift the Filipinos' standard of living. In an interview with Andy Vital, DZRH Mobile Unit 15, Sangalang disclosed that, based on their observation, present events may have been initiated by people in power in order to create a violent scenario that can justify the declaration of martial law. Sangalang also accused Americans of being behind a plan to create a scenario that could warrant the imposition of martial law. This, he said, would asssure the Americans that no more groups can protest against a new bases agreement during the next round of talks on the bases. Here is Sangalang's statement:

[Begin Recording] First of all, we do not profit from this. Terrorizing people is not in line with our objective. Secondly, whenever an incident like this happens, many civilians are hurt. We do not want to do this. We are avoiding this. Thirdly, we think that these events are instigated by the government itself to condition the minds of the people to the proclamation of martial law. We see this as part of a program the imperialist United States wants to push through, because in the event of a martial law, no protest actions will be permitted, no one will be allowed to denounce the coming talks to reach a treaty on the U.S. military bases. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Sangalang pointed out that they are only seeking the government's sincerity to implement laws strictly to change the present system, but added that implementing reforms now looks dim as those people in power have their own selfish ambitions. He said they are willing to talk with government representatives, but claimed guns are already cocked up against them. Sangalang appealed to the government that they be given equal opportunity to use the media so that their objectives may be understood in the event of peace talks.

Ramos Views Terrorist Activities

HK2305141390 Quezon City DWDD Defense Radio in Tagalog 0235 GMT 23 May 90

[Weekly news conference by Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos at the Social Hall of the Department of National Defense, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, live or recorded; in English—italicized portion in Tagalog]

[Excerpts] [Ramos] Good afternoon to everyone. May I just make this announcement, which would be of interest to all of you. First of all, as you already know, the president has issued national emergency memo order no. 26 pertaining to the providing of rewards and incentives to government witnesses and informants and for other purposes, including a total package of witness protection. Now, we'll give a copy of this to the PIO [Public Information Office] for your reference. At the same time, we issued a department order creating the secretariat as called for in memo no. 26, which will do the day-to-day work on witness protection. The chairman of this secretariat, as embodied in the memo 26, is our assistant secretary for legal affairs, and a senior representative from the Department of Justice will be the co-chairman. I'll turn this over to... [changes thought]. Ronnie, give that to the media later on for reference. [passage omitted] With this opening statement, ***I don't think there are any more questions.***

[Moderator] The guy on the right, please.

[Reporter] There has been a spate of bombings and ambuscades lately, sir. How would you view the situation? Is it deteriorating or [words indistinct]

[Ramos] The one on Colonel Reynaldo Dino, who was killed this morning at Caloocan City in the ambush of his vehicle and in which his daughter, Mrs. Halili, and his security escorts, one sergeant and one policeman, were also killed—four all in all. This one, we see as a continuation of the summer offensive and Sparrow Unit terroristic operations in the Metro Manila area by the CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army]. Now in regard to the bombing attacks on various banks, that is still being thoroughly investigated by Capcom [Capital Region Command]. And at this stage, there is no definite conclusion as to who are the perpetrators.

However, at this stage, I would like to deny that this is being done by some government agents as insinuated in, as you understand, a broadcast by a Y-O-U [Young Officers Union] spokesman through one of the local radio stations. In the first place, the government, and especially the DND [Department of National Defense], would be the last one that would wish to have a situation of martial law imposed in our country. We are not yet in that situation, and as far as I am concerned, there is no need for those strict emergency measures.

In the cabinet meeting this morning, the main item was the emergency powers of the president. All that the president and the cabinet decided to do was to submit a proposed bill to Congress to extend the emergency powers of the president beyond June 8, but which are limited in terms of the kinds of emergency powers that should be extended. This is limited, also, if we compare this to what are enumerated in Republic Act 6826, the original emergency powers law.

I think there should be no cause for alarm, but at the same time, we would ask the public to be a little more vigilant and to report as quickly as possible to the authorities any unusual happenings that they observe in their respective neighborhoods. And this is part of our community defense and security plans under the peace and order councils. Okay?

[Reporter] Sir, can you talk about the proposal of burden-sharing among ASEAN countries in [words indistinct] in the Philippines. Sir, can you expound on the idea of this plan?

[Ramos] This is not a new proposal on the part of government. In fact, our secretary of foreign affairs, Secretary Manglapus has consistently espoused this idea of burden sharing. But as you well know, what is happening in ASEAN is that all member-nations, including those in the Asian-Pacific area who are not members of ASEAN, are benefiting from the environment of regional stability that exists in Asia and the Pacific today, making possible accelerated economic growth.

The Philippines, however, appears to be the only country that is assuming the political and social costs of the hosting of the U.S. bases on Philippine soil. So, our proposal of burden sharing is simply that the other countries that are benefiting from this arrangement should also share in the burden.

Singapore, of course, has already come out openly to declare that they are willing to share in the burden but can only do so much because their territory is very small.

Anyway, this proposal must be further explored at the level of the diplomats. That is why I mentioned in my speech that the ASEAN countries should, perhaps, try to reach a concensus of some kind in regard to this issue, but this must be done at the level of diplomacy.

[Reporter] Is it giving aid to the Philippines through economic assistance by other countries their way of sharing the burden?

[Ramos] That is one way for those countries that are capable. Of course, we also realize that there are also countries that are also still trying to develop, they try to become self sufficient economically. But as to what could be the extent of this from each country concerned, well, let that be worked out.

[Reporter passage indistinct]

[Ramos] First on the acceleration of deliveries, we were briefed yesterday by the U.S. side that many of the items that have been ordered by the Philippine side are going to be delivered on an accelerated schedule so that as many as six months to 12 months of the normal delivery time will be cut off. In other words, will be reduced. Therefore, we will get the items earlier. We can not tell you this time what specific items are to be accelerated, but we were given that assurance that the speeding up can consist of anything from six months to 12 months. So, I think that's a very good sign.

Now, in regard to the joint military use of the U.S. facilities, Clark and Subic, so that the elements and units of the Armed Forces can avail of the training, the experience, and the exposure opportunities, we were assured that this is very feasible as it works. We do not have to wait for the annual scheduled joint exercises—under what we call the Balikatan [brotherhood] series, which takes place only once a year—to wait for training, experience, and exposure opportunities for our AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] personnel, elements, and units. So, again this is a very good development.

[Reporter] Sir, you mentioned a while ago that the ambush-slaying of Colonel Dino is part of the summer offensive of the CPP-NPA. Have you investigated or gathered evidence to point to the NPA?

[Ramos] This is the initial report of General Filart, the Capcom commander, to me because I got in touch with him right away. No, it must also be remembered that the CPP-NPA have made many threats, even against U.S. military personnel. Now, I think we must combine this with their program to try to maintain a critical posture before our people. Because there is no question, Communists ... [changes thought], the belief of people in communism, as a way of life and as an economic system, is waning. It has been reduced almost to nothing in the countries of Eastern Europe and in some parts of Asia, as you well know, and even here in the Philippines. And this is evident by their much reduced mass base, their smaller initiatives in the countrysides because the AFP has gained the upper hand, as well as their being setback in their agaw-armas [arms grabbing] program. They are also losing substantially in the so-called body count ratio to the extent that for every soldier or policeman that we lose, there are three NPA or CPP members that are being killed. So, I think they are now trying to utilize terrorism as a means to show that they are still capable and that they are still around.

[Moderator] Okay. Henry Gapuz.

[Gapuz] Sir, as a follow up, is there a trend for these killings and [words indistinct]. Are we ever gonna see the end of it?

[Ramos] Yes, I'm sure that we will see the end of it. But we are still working towards that end, you see. We are not yet finished with our work. This is in fact one of the justifications for the proposed extension of the emergency powers of the president. We are also still confronted with the threats coming from the military rebels, whose leadership is still underground and not yet accounted for by the government. They have also, talking about the military rebels, embanked on a new propaganda offensive using the YOU as their mouthpiece.

Now, we must understand that as previously declared in an analysis made by the Chief of Staff General De Villa and also by the acting chief of staff General Biazon, that the RAM-SFP [Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People] and the YOU are connected. I, myself, have said that the RAM, the SFP, and the YOU have the same relationship to each other as the CPP-NPA-NDF [National Democratic Front], in that they vary their propaganda lines. They vary their modus operandi, and they vary their linkages, especially with some elements of media according to the situation, according to the objective that they are trying to accomplish at a particular moment.

For instance, the YOU is now trying to follow a more nationalist line and according to the analysis of the experts in the AFP, that they are noticing the hand of Mr. Lino Tayag in the pronouncements of the YOU because of this so-called nationalist flavor. But yet, this is also a reminiscence of the same lines being espoused by Nilo Tayag when he was working for the Marcos administration, and also when he was a member of the Central Committee of the CPP-NPA in the early seventies as chairman of the Kabataang Makabayan [Nationalist Youth]. So, this is something that we must be very careful about and not just swallow hook, line, and sinker, because their common quality is that they are antigovernment forces that have coalesced for the purpose of speeding up their objective to take over state power through violent means, not through the peaceful constitutional process. And so, they must be seen for that, and we must not be deceived by their glowing words and beautiful visions of the future because their actions have been of terrorism and the use of force to gain the upper hand in our society.

[Gapuz] Do we take it to mean that based on the intelligence reading, the disturbances that we've been experiencing in the past few days is an indication that this is open season for the the RAM, SFP, YOU, as well as the CPP-NPA-NDF?

[Ramos] No. I will not say it is open season, in the sense that they are [words indistinct] because government is taking counter actions. And while of course it would be almost impossible to prevent the violent incidents because they have the choice of time and place and method, the government continues to intensively operate against them, and regularly there are key people from the among the military rebels as well as from the CPP-NPA that are being captured, arrested, or somehow put under the control of the authorities under combined operations, not only by the military but also by the intelligence community, the law enforcement community, and the concerned private sector. Okay?

[Moderator] The last question will be ask by Renante Augustus.

[Augustus] Military authorities told reporters yesterday that the two kinds of explosives [were] recovered, by elements of bomb disposal unit at the Security Bank, particularly the C4 and the TNT. Sir, do you think it is possible that the series of bomb attacks and attempted bombings to bomb the banks, particulary the Security Bank, was a part of the destabilization efforts perpetrated by the right wing elements of the AFP, particularly the RAM, since according to you they can no longer launch another possible coup?

[Ramos] Well, that is a possibility that we are continuing to explore. TNT is available commercially. On the other hand, C4, which is a plastic kind of explosive, is normally only distributed through military channels. But it is a fact that both the CPP-NPA and the military rebels have acquired not only military explosives, but also military arms and ammunition. So, they can use it for that purpose to terrorize. But again, I would like to assure you, as I said in the beginning, that the government would be the last agency in this country that would want to see any instability or any apprehension on the part of the public. So, I would like to deny, and condemn even, some of this propaganda efforts of the extreme left and the extreme right trying to blame government for the series of bombings that is now taking place.

Congressman Blames Government

HK2405091190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0700 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Opposition Congressman Rodolfo Albano today said the recent bomb threats in Metro Manila were just made up by authorities to justify the possible declaration of martial law. In an interview with Deo Macalma, the congressman said this scenario could no longer cause apprehension as the government's plan is evident. Here is Congressman Albano:

[Begin recording] The administration's tactic is no longer surprising. They are trying to find ways to shift the people's attention from their failure to deliver services to them, the increasing prices of basic commodities, widespread graft and corruption in the government, and their failure to prevent crimes because of their own selfish interests. This plan is not surprising. [end recording]

Marines Secure DFA Building

HK2405074790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0700 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Philippine Marines have tightly secured the Department of Foreign Affairs [DFA] building due to reports that the building is a target of attack. Here is Rey Arquiza with the details:

[Begin recording] Security has been stepped up at the Department of Foreign Affairs and for its high ranking officials following reports that unidentified groups are planning to bomb the DFA. Marine guards are conducting thorough body searches on everyone as part of the security measures. The sudden deployment of Marines to the DFA came after the reported discovery of bombs in several government and private buildings. It is believed that the terrorists' prime target is the DFA as it is involved in talks about the future of the U.S. bases in the country.

Yakuza Role in Colonel's Murder 'Being Explored'

HK2405090990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0700 GMT 24 May 90

[By Eloi Aquino]

[Text] The Japanese Yakuza crime syndicate may be involved in the killing of Philippine Constabulary Colonel Reynaldo Dino and four others in Caloocan City, yesterday. Criminal Investigation Service Chief Brigadier General Pantaleon Dumlao today said that the Yakuza angle is now a theory being explored by authorities investigating Dino's case. Dumlao said Dino was the former chief of staff of the Capital Region Command-Metropolitan Police Force and could be suspected by the Yakuza of leading authorities in crackdown operations against the syndicate. General Dumlao said all other angles are being investigated.

Aquino Seeks Six-Month Crisis Powers Extension

HK2305142390 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1200 GMT 23 May 90

[Italicized portion in English]

[Text] The president is seeking a six-month extension of her emergency powers. According to Presidential

Spokesman Adolf Azcuna, although a normal situation in the country has returned, there is still no assurance that disturbances will not occur again in the coming months. The new emergency powers will give limited authority to the president. It does not include the proposal to authorize the military to carry out seizures without due warrants. But included in the powers are the takeover of public utilities, confiscation of weapons, and a systematic distribution of oil and energy:

[Begin Azcuna recording] *What we [word indistinct] to us for Congress to pass another legislation which will be effective June 9 up to the end of the year, on the premise that there is still an emergency and there is need for some of the powers that are given, not all anymore, but some need to be continued for this limited time. The president will consult with the leaders of Congress on this, but this has been the move that was agreed to be done.* [end recording]

Senator Leader Cites Sabah, Mindanao Problems

HK2205090190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0700 GMT 22 May 90

[By Cesar Chavez of Mobile Unit No. 9—italicized portion in English]

[Text] Senate majority floorleader Teofisto Guingona has asked the government to find a comprehensive and stable solution to the Philippines' claim to Sabah and address the long-time problem in Mindanao. In a previlege speech, Guingona said the 46-member Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] will meet in Cairo, Egypt in June and the Philippines should reiterate its claim on Sabah and convince them that the country's stand on the issue is justified. He also disclosed that the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] is prepared to disregard the Tripoli Agreement if the ICO accepts their membership bid. In spite of this, the government is not making a move even if many former MNLF members are holding government posts. According to him, there is a tactical alliance between renegade Colonel Alexander Noble and MNLF commander Solitario for a possible establishment of a provincial government in Mindanao.

[Begin Guingona recording] *We should make our presence felt before Cairo, during Cairo, and after Cairo to the 46-member nations to ensure that the Philippine position be seen and evaluated in the right perspective.* [end recording]

Guingona also requested the creation of a national commission for Southern Mindano, strengthening defense in the South, and the establishment of commerce in Sabah.

Communist Brigade Vows To Continue Fight

HK2405084190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0700 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] The Alex Boncayao Brigade [ABB] announced they can have a happy sixth anniversary celebration today because they have allegedly reached a high level of their struggle.

In an official newsletter, PARTISANO, the ABB stated that they will push forward with their fight against militay troops, informers, vigilantes, and bad elements. The New People's Army's liquidation squad added they have intensified their fight in order to bring about rebellion, the ultimate way for them to seize power from President Aquino. They also said they have reached a very high level of struggle that they could now celebrate, but they stressed they still need to get stronger and more organized on points where they are weak.

Meanwhile, the ABB has not claimed responsibility for the ambush-slaying of Colonel Reynaldo Dino of the Philippine Constabulary. Earlier, authorities claimed that the NPA was responsible for the killing of the colonel, his daughter, and two of his security aides in Caloocan City.

More Civilian Units To Be Trained to Help Army

HK2105123190 Manila THE MANILA TIMES in English 20 May 90 p 7

[By Glenda Gloria]

[Text] Some 8,000 to 13,000 new civilian volunteers will be trained this year to increase the strength of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit [Cafgu] and shorten the government's timetable in defeating the communist insurgency.

Defense Secretary Eduardo Ermita said the new recruits would be used as territorial security forces to "hold" an area liberated by government troops. Under a defense plan of government, the target for Cafgu recruitment was 80,000 active auxiliary volunteers to form the first line of defense of a liberated community from further infiltration by communist guerillas. But as of April this year, there were only about 60,000 Cafgu volunteers operating in communist-hit areas nationwide. "There is a strong clamor from our local officials and among the people themselves to organize Cafgu units in their areas," Ermita said.

The Armed Forces budget for this year allowed the target recruitment to 13,000 to raise the number of civilian volunteers to 70,000 to 75,000 by the end of the year.

A Cafgu company organized in one community is composed of at lest 88 volunteers and 13 military personnel as trainers.

Anti-Insurgency Casualty Toll Reported

HK2105130190 Quezon City MALAYA in English 21 May 90 p 2

[By Nestor Arellano]

[Text] The anti-insurgency campaign has had a casualty toll of 360 dead and 190 others wounded since last January, the military reported yesterday. The government suffered 178 dead; the communists 168, and the separatists, 14. The government dead included 59, PC [Philippine Constabulary]; 47 INP [Integrated National Police], 72, CAFGU [Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit].

Wounded were 91 PC soldiers and personnel, INP, 28; and CAFGU, 54. Only 15 NPAs [New People's Army] were reported wounded and one for the southern Philippine terrorists [SPTs], the military grouping for MILF [Moro Islamic Liberation Front] and MNLF [Moro National Liberation Front]. The records covered encounters from January to the second week of this month involving the PC, Integrated National Police, and the Citizens Armed Forces Geographic Unit against the New People's Army-Communist Party of the Philippines, the Moro National Liberation Front, and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

Rebel encounters with other major service commands were not included in the report.

The records also showed the PC-INP initiated two major encounters with NPAs and none against SPTs. Minor offensives against the NPA totalled 193 and 12 against SPTs. The NPA was listed as having initiated 55 minor and 11 major attacks and 69 minor and five major "brutalities" and the SPTs, two minor attacks and 10 major and one minor "brutalities."

The PC seized some 140 high-powered firearms (FAs) and 116 low- caliber weapons from insurgents. The INP seized seven high-powered FAs and 24 low caliber FAs and the CAFGU, 10 high powered and one low-caliber FAs. Firearms loss for the government were listed as follows: PC, 80 high-powered and 14 low caliber, INP, 43 high-powered and 33 low caliber; and the CAFGU, 42 high-powered and one low caliber FA.

'Indicator' Views Rise in Diesel Consumption

HK1805034790 Manila BUSINESS STAR in English 18 May 90 p 2

["Indicator" column by Conrado M. Diaz Jr.: "Diesel Use Rises As Industry, Commerce Cope With Power Crisis"]

[Text] Diesel consumption in the country rose by a hefty 28.84% from year-ago levels during the first quarter this year, indicating increased reliance on the petroleum product as the country tried to cope with power outages caused by the then already long-drawn drought conditions.

Per data from the Office of Energy Affairs (OEA), the volume of diesel consumed during the first three months of the year stood at 6.7 million barrels (MMB). This, the OEA said, is 1.5 MMB more than the 5.2 MMB used up during the same period last year. The increased requirement was most probably due to the National Power Corp.'s (NPC) commissioning of gas turbine plants as well as the operation of electric power generators by industries and commercial establishments during brownouts. Gas turbine plants and electric power generators run on diesel. Growth in diesel consumption during the reference period even overtook the traditionally more demanded petroluem derivative, fuel oil, the utilization of which increased by only 1.4%.

Actually, diesel consumption has already been growing since last year when utilization of the commodity grew by 15.8% from 1988 levels. But the growth this year is more impressive since it is more than double last year's rate. Diesel usage has also been increasing by an average monthly of 32.6% or an equivalent volume of 562 MB [expansion unknown] since January.

Fuel oil, however, remains the most utilized petroleum product as indicated by the volume utilized this year, at 7.382 MMB. Such volume accounts for 34.21% of the total petroleum product consumption for the first quarter of 21.576 MMB.

Only three petroleum product derivatives posted reduced utilization rates during the period. They are asphalts consumption of which slowed down by 24.3%; solvents, 6.8%; and, aviation turbo, 2.9%. The aggregate consumption level thus rose by 11.5% from last year's 19.350 MMB to this year's 21.576 MMB. On a daily basis, consumption this year was measured at 240 MB per calendar day, 11.6% higher than 215 MB in 1989. This overall growth in petroleum product consumption was made by specific pull-ups in demand for the following: liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), the use of which rose 16.1%; kerosene, 14.5%; aviation gasoline and premium gasoline, which are both used for traveling, consumption of which grew by 15.1% and 13.4%, respectively, during the reference period.

The rise in demand was strongest among large fuel-intensive industries and commercial establishments, which consumed 1.18 MMB more this year than last year. During the period, 12.87 MMB of petroleum derivatives were used, 10.1% higher than last year's 11.69 MMB. The power generation sector remained the heaviest user accounting for 37.9% of total while also posting a 16% growth over the previous year. Its 4.88 MMB usage was 67 MB more than the 4.21 MMB level in 1989.

Similarly, other major users such as the oil refineries themselves, the mining sector, land transport, and domestic marine also increased utilization of petroleum demand for the period.

Domestic Net Consumption

First Quarter 1989, 1990

(in Thousand Barrels)

	1990	1989	%Change
Fuel Oil	7,382	7,282	1.4
Diesel	6,669	5,150	29.5
Premium Gasoline	2,356	2,077	13.4
LPG	1,124	968	16.1
Aviation Turbo	1,014	1,045	-2.9
Kerosene	909	794	14.5
Regular Gasoline	898	837	7.3
Lubes & Greases	264	252	4.6
Asphalts	85	113	-24.3
Solvents	81	87	-6.8
Aviation Gasoline	12	10	15.1
Others	3	3	18.3
Refinery Fuel & Loss	780	732	6.6
Total Products	21,576	19,350	11.5
MBCD	240	215	

Notes: 1. Totals may not add up due to rounding off. 2. Percentage changes reflect actual variances in full barrels

Thailand

Malaysian Defense Minister Arrives in Bangkok

BK2305150190 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Malaysian Defense Minister Tengku Datuk Ahmad Rithauddeen Bin Ismail, in his capacity as the chairman of the Joint Malaysian Border Committee, arrived at the Air Force Headquarters airport at 1600 today. He is here to attend the 34th meeting of the Joint Thai-Malaysian Border Committee in Bangkok. The Malaysian defense minister was welcomed at the airport by Supreme Commander General Sunthon Khongsomphong in his capacity as the chairman of a working committee of the Joint Thai-Malaysian Border Committee, and by a group of senior military officers. The defense minister escorted the Malaysian defense minister to the welcoming podium and to review the guard of honor. A news conference, to be chaired by the Malaysian defense minister, on the results of the meeting of the Joint Thai-Malaysian Border Committee will be held at the Regent Hotel at 1100 on 25 May.

Bangladesh Premier on Trade, Economic Policies

BK2405014590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 May 90 p 18

[By Sonchai Nokphlap]

[Text] Bangladesh, a major importer of Thai rice, is prepared to sign a long-term arrangement to buy up to 100,000 tons of the grain annually, Bangladesh Prime Minister Kazi Zafar Ahmed told Business Post on Tuesday [22 May]. Mr Ahmed, who is currently paying a five-day official visit to Thailand as guest of Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan, said the contract could last until Bangladesh becomes self-sufficient in the commodity.

Officials of the two countries are now working on the deal which will probably last up to five years and be on a government-to-government basis. Bangladesh generally buys rice from Thailand on a year-to-year basis on cash payment terms. Last year's rice purchases were valued at 1,665 million baht. Dhaka's purchases of Thai rice peaked in 1984 when it imported 2,221 million baht of the grain. This fell to 461 million baht in 1985 and 134 million baht for the following year, before climbing again to 1,592 million baht in 1987. In view of the good bilateral relationship, Bangladesh had decided to seek a long-term contract. "Whenever we are in need of rice, we always turn to Thailand," Mr Ahmed said.

Describing his current stay in Thailand as a "goodwill visit," Mr Ahmed said he had discussed several bilateral issues with General Chatchai when he met his counterpart at Government House on Tuesday. In the field of trade and economic cooperation, the Bangladesh Premier said he had asked Thailand to buy more jute and tea from his country, to narrow the trade imbalance which currently favours Bangkok. "At the moment, our volume of trade has been increasing but there is some imbalance," he said. Mr Ahmed said Bangladesh bought rice and tapioca from Thailand and urged Thai importers to resume buying jute from his country. "The Thai Prime Minister agreed to examine it," he said.

Bangladeshi jute and related products have difficulty in entering Thailand because of the high tariff rate. He pointed out that the Thai market was suitable for jute carpet because of the good standard and low prices. The tariff on jute carpets, for example, was set at the same level as for wool carpets. Thailand imposes a 60 percent import duty on all categories of carpets from abroad. In response to his request, Gen Chatchai promised to sharply reduce the tariff on jute carpet imports.

Mr Ahmed said he had told Gen Chatchai during their discussions that Thai investors were welcome in Bangladesh. Dhaka has recently introduced a series of measures to liberalise the investment climate. "A very liberal investment policy has been undertaken, particularly in the export-processing zone at the port city of Chittagong, where Thai industrialists can settle their industries, either on their own or as joint ventures. I have explained to the Prime Minister that our investment policy is perhaps the most liberal one in the world. We have one export-processing zone for foreigners to settle their industries. They get many concessions, such as a tax holiday for 10 years and no tax or duty payments if they import machinery from other countries." Mr Ahmed said Bangladesh's laws for the repatriation of money were liberal. "It can be repatriated without any interest."

Bangladesh has also established an investment agency. "It's a one-stop service centre where foreign investors can obtain necessary official permission and financial backing from banks, working capital, permission for electricity and power. All can be completed in one month," he explained. He suggested that the Thai Government despatch a high-level delegation led by the Industry Ministry and Thai industrialists to investigate investment possibilities. "I emphasised that Bangladesh has decided to invite overseas investors, including the Thais, to come to Bangladesh. We will give them special privileges."

On international issues, Mr Ahmed said he had proposed greater cooperation between South and Southeast Asian countries. "Both of us can try to foster relations between the two regional groups. Bangladesh has a topographic advantage, it belongs to South and Southeast Asia at the same time. "Since the world is passing through a phase of relaxation which is replacing tensions, more cooperation and collaboration is replacing confrontation. We should also try to find out ways and means to cooperate with each other to bring about peace. "The Europeans are talking of one Europe. So we Asian countries should try to develop the Asian forum—a forum through which we can increase our cooperation," Mr Ahmed said.

"Thailand is very close to our heart. On almost all the international issues we hold identical views, such as Cambodia. I congratulate the Thai Prime Minister for his very dynamic move to find the solution to this problem and his initiative for peace."

The Prime Minister also said he was impressed by the progress Thailand had made in the economic field. "Thailand, when I first came in the 1970s, was not that industrialised and not that developed. We are now happy to see that within a very short period, less than two decades, it has developed tremendously." He said he was impressed by the ability of Thailand to strike a balance in economic development by making progress in both agriculture and industry. As an agricultural-based nation, Mr Ahmed said Bangladesh now also wanted to proceed with industrialisation. "We want to gain from the experiences of Thailand."

Also discussed during the meeting with Gen Chatchai was the possibility of both countries cooperating in the field of natural gas exploration. Bangladesh has natural gas in abundance, according to Mr Ahmed. "We can help each other and learn from each other and work for mutual benefits." Several major engineering projects are going on in Bangladesh, such as roads, river embankments and bridges, and this could be another area of interest for Thai contractors.

Government Relaxes Foreign Exchange Controls

BK2205021590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 May 90 p 13

[By THE NATION financial reporters]

[Text] The Thai government yesterday took the initial official step to reform the country's financial system by announcing the liberalization of foreign exchange controls in line with the obligations under the International Monetary Fund agreement. The historic move, which will take immediate effect, is a signal to the international community that Thailand is ready to comply with the IMF regulation under which financial transactions will be allowed to flow into and out of the country freely. It also means that Thailand will relax its control on foreign exchange, allowing financial payments or remittances to take place in a flexible manner, conducive to further national economic development.

By doing so, Thailand has agreed to comply with Article 8 of the IMF obligations, under which it will not place restrictions on current payments or transfers for current international transactions, will refrain from engaging in discriminatory currency arrangements or multiple currency practices and will accept convertibility of foreign-held balances.

However, the pace of this financial reform will be gradual. The Bank of Thailand is now working tediously to create a new financial data system to replace the old exchange control procedure. Under this contingency plan, the commercial banks will emerge as a major force in helping the country to achieve the liberalization of exchange controls.

Finance Minister Pramuan Saphawasu said, beginning today, commercial banks will be allowed to process all applications for the handling of goods documents on behalf of the central bank, to expand the volume of foreign currencies in the conduct of financial services and to handle capital fund applications for individual investors in the event that they want to make foreign loan repayments previously unregistered with the central bank, or to make foreign remittances from the sale of stocks or from the termination of businesses. After the central bank has worked out the system, Pramuan said commercial banks will be permitted to trade in foreign currencies on behalf of the central bank, and that the current exchange control document accompanied by complicated procedures will be abolished.

In the trade- and service-related activities, commercial banks will be given full authority to process all the import/export applications, he added. As for exports, the government will still find it necessary to oversee the exporters bringing the money into the country earned from the sales of their goods or services, but it will ease the requirement by which money earned from overseas will have to be taken into a central pool, Pramuan said. Exporters, however, will continue to be subject to a requirement that they will have to bring the foreign currencies into the country within 180 days after the sales of goods have been completed, although they are not required to convert the currencies within seven days like before, he said.

In regard to capital fund, the government will ease the regulation controlling the practice of taking money out of the country for overseas investment, although there will be some controls on capital fund arising out of earnings within the country. But this control will be limited only to major companies or investors. Foreign residents in the country will be allowed to open bank accounts in other currencies apart from the baht [bt]. (Now only commercial banks are permitted to make foreign currency deposits.) If foreign residents want to open overseas accounts, they can do so more conveniently with official approval.

Pramuan also announced that the Thai government is ready to transform its status as a debtor country in the IMF community to that of a creditor by intending to repay its debts to the IMF by 53.9 million SDR (special drawing rights), or about Bt1.34 billion within this month. This repayment will be made three and a half years before the original deadline. He said this action is aimed at showing to the international community that financially and economically Thailand is a stable country, ready to assume a leading role as a financial and commercial centre in the region.

It is quite an endeavour for Thailand to have arrived at this crucial turning point in its history. Over the past three to four years, Thailand has experienced steady growth in its financial position and economic stability, with the economic growth rate hovering around 10 per cent a year.

This year will mark the third consecutive year that Thailand posts a budget surplus. Its foreign debts have also reduced significantly, falling from 38.5 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP) in 1986 to 29.3 per cent in last year. At the same time, its international reserves have been climbing quickly, and stand at US$13 billion at the moment. Thailand is ranked 19th among the 152 member-countries of the IMF in regard to the size of international reserves. Despite the rising current account deficit and inflation, Pramuan said the trend conforms with the current economic growth and investment climate as the economy is undergoing restructuring.

Relaxation of foreign exchange controls

The controls so far	New "relaxed" controls
1. Cargoes	
Commercial banks are allowed to process all transactions except those with special payment methods	Can process all transactions
2. Financial services	
2.1 Travelling allowances (including credit card) that can be processed by commercial banks must not exceed US$4,500 (tourist) and US$9,000 (govt staff) per trip	Limits raised to US$20,000 per trip per person
2.2 Household allowances for families of expatriates working in Thailand and those on religious missions in Mecca that can be processed by commercial banks must not exceed US$5,000 per year	Limit raised to US$50,000
2.3 Education expenses limited: US$13,000-15,000	Limit raised to US$50,000
2.4 Freight, communication fees, copyrights, royalties etc	Commercial banks can process up to US$50,000 without prior permission
3. Money Transfer	
Need prior permission in every case	Commercial banks can process up to US$100,000 per year without prior permission. For inheritance transfer, banks can process up to US$1 million without prior permission
4. Repayment of foreign loans not registered with Bank of Thailand	
Need prior permission	Commercial banks can process up to US$500,000 without prior permission
5. Remittance of stock sales	
Need prior permission	Commercial banks can process up to US$500,000 without prior permission
6. Remittance of Thai expatriates	
Need prior permission in most	Commercial banks can process up to Bt5 million per day

4-Month Trade Deficit Up 68 Percent From 1989

BK2405030390 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 May 90 p 17

[Text] Thailand suffered a trade deficit of 74,200 million baht during the first four months this year, 68 percent more than the same period last year. The Bank of Thailand said yesterday imports during the period rose 27 percent while exports rose only 15 percent. Although the country enjoyed a service account surplus of 44,400 million baht, the current account was still 29,800 million baht in deficit. There was a net capital inflow during the period of 47,800 million baht, which increased the country's payment surplus to 45,100 million baht.

Vietnam

UNHCR Official Discourages Boat People

BK2405134690 Hong Kong AFP in English 1248 GMT 24 May 90

[By Jean-Claude Chapon]

[Text] Hanoi, May 24 (AFP)—Vietnamese boat people face pirates at sea and detention centres after they land, a top UNHCR [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees] official warned on television here in a bid to discourage refugees from leaving the country. Sergio Vieira de Mello, regional director of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the first foreign official to speak directly to the Vietnamese people, said late Wednesday some 2,000 boat people are known to have been attacked by pirates in the past two years. He also condemned "some countries" in Asia for their policy of pushing Vietnamese boats back out to sea—"7,000 people since last May"—and the "very hard" conditions of some refugee camps, "in Hong Kong, for example."

Since 1988, pirates have carried out 250 known attacks on boat people in which "47 people have died, 1,276 people have vanished and are probably dead, 230 women were raped and 266 others probably raped and probably killed," Mr. De Mello said. "That makes a total of 1,817 victims, to which must be added all those who disappeared" without witnesses, he said. "Piracy on the high seas continues despite all our efforts, in cooperation with governments of the region," Mr. De Mello said, adding that "if the number of attacks has diminished, the brutality has increased." "It seems to be a case of eliminating, of slaughtering all possible witnesses," he said.

Humanitarian sources estimate that the pirates who prey on boat people, mainly in waters off the southern coast of Vietnam, are 80 per cent Thai, and the rest Malaysian or Vietnamese. They also stress that it is impossible to know the total number of boat people who have died as a result of attack by pirates, lack of food or shipwreck.

Other statistics set at 100,000 the number of Vietnamese boat people waiting for immigration visas in countries of first asylum, including 56,000 in Hong Kong. The route to Hong Kong is effectively safe from pirates as the boats travel close to Chinese coastal waters. After citing those figures, Mr. De Mello called upon Vietnamese to avoid leaving in boats "at any cost" to safeguard their wives and daughters from being raped on the high seas. He also said those with "valid reasons for wanting to leave the country" should do so in accordance with existing laws, and asked them to "be patient."

The UNHCR supervises an emigration scheme, the Orderly Departure Program, whose volume has increased dramatically by the year. "The Vietnamese authorities have helped us to resettle 23,000 people in 1988, 43,000 in 1989, and probably 60,000 this year," Mr. De Mello said. Hanoi has also launched an information campaign aimed at dissuading illegal emigration, and Vietnamese Television has aired footage depicting the living conditions in Hong Kong refugee camps.

An international conference in Manila last week aimed at resolving the boat people issue ended in failure, and humanitarian officials are wary of the tougher stance now being taken by countries of first asylum. Such countries are increasingly unwilling to take in boat people as their chances of resettlement to third countries grow slimmer with the perception that most of the latest refugees are fleeing harsh economic conditions in Vietnam rather than the threat of political persecution.

Vo Chi Cong Announced To Visit Algeria, Libya

BK2105124590 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Vietnamese State President Vo Chi Cong will pay official visits to the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in the near future. The visits are made at the invitations of the Algeria President Chadli Bendjedid and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi of Libya.

Vo Van Kiet Makes Visit to Finland 17-18 May

BK2105125590 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] At the invitation of the Finnish Government, First Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Vietnam Vo Van Kiet paid a visit to Helsinki, Finland, on May 17 and 18. He was accompanied by Minister Vo Dong Giang, vice chairman of the committee for cooperation and foreign investment.

During his stay in Finland, Mr. Vo Van Kiet met with and had working session with Finnish Foreign Minister Pertti Paasio and Minister of Industry and Commerce Iikka Suominen. The two sides had their useful and cordial talks. They also discussed measures to promote their friendship and cooperation in the future. Vice Chairman Vo Van Kiet informed them about the economic and political achievements in the renovation in Vietnam and exchanged views on international problems of mutual concern. Mr. Vo Van Kiet visited several industrial enterprises and made contacts with Finnish business circles.

Finnish-Aided Water Supply Program in 2d Phase

BK2205161790 Hanoi VNA in English 1502 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 22—The second phase of the Finnish-assisted water supply programme in Hanoi was started on May 18.

In this phase, 17 more wells will be sunk within this year to ensure an additional supply of 90,000 cubic metres of raw water per day and night for three treatment plants at Luong Yen Mai Dich and Ngoc Ha residential areas in Hanoi.

Japan Donates Insecticide Packing Machine

BK2305115790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] The Takeda Chemical Industry Company, the Nichimen company, and the (Mushumi) company of Japan presented an insecticide packing machine as a gift to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry during a ceremony held yesterday evening, 21 May, at the government's guest house.

Attending the gift-presenting ceremony on the Japanese side were Mssrs. Kuniaki Asmura, Japanese ambassador to Vietnam; (Koshiro Zuai), chairman of the Japanese-Vietnamese trading society, (Shiro Morimoto), managing director of the Takeda Company, (Tesia Yanase), president of the (Mushumi) trade company, (Naotake Muratami), representative of the Nichimen company. On the Vietnamese side were Comrade Nguyen Minh Thong, deputy minister of agriculture and food industry and representatives of the Ministry of Finance, the Foreign Trade Bank, and many press agencies and newspapers at the central level and Hanoi.

Cooperation in agricultural production between Vietnam and Japan has been going on for many years. Vietnam has used many kinds of Japanese-made insecticides in even larger quantities. So far the insecticides imported have been packed in large bags. The Japanese has now given us an automated machine that can pack insecticides into 100-gram bags for easy handling and transportation, enabling us to send them more safely and conveniently to users.

French-Aided Telex Post Exchange Installed

BK2305103690 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 20 May 90

[Text] According to a report from a Vietnam Television correspondent, the Vietnam Post and Telecommunication General Corporation held a ceremony this morning to inaugurate a telex post exchange (ELTEX 5 ALPHA), a project of cooperation between Haiphong post office and the French company STRAGEL. French Ambassador Blanchemaison attended the ceremony.

This is the third modern telex post exchange, including the ones in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh cities, which were also equipped by STRAGEL.

The operation of this post exchange marks a step in the development of the Vietnam telecommunication network along the lines of technical renovation for better quality. The post exchange has 236 numbers and can be expanded to 512 numbers to ensure telex communication within the country and overseas. This creates more favorable conditions of liaison and communication for Vietnamese and international agencies, traders, and tourists. After cutting the inauguration ribbon, General Director Dang Van Than sent the first message, greeting the general director of STRAGEL.

Britain Reportedly To Provide Aid for Projects

BK2305043790 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] According to British press, Britain is providing aid worth one million pounds sterling for projects in Vietnam run by non-governmental organizations (NGO). Speaking to the British Government on May 17, Mrs. Lynda Chalker, Britain overseas development minister, announced the setting up of a special team to support NGO activities in Vietnam.

International Air Route Opened to Kuala Lumpur

BK2405112490 Hanoi VNA in English 1607 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 23—A new air route between Kuala Lumpur and Ho Chi Minh City was officially opened to traffic today at a ceremony held in the Tan Son Nhat Airport, Ho Chi Minh City.

The inaugural ceremony was witnessed by Nguyen Hong Nhi, director general of the Vietnam Airlines Corporation, and Tan Sri Haji Abdul Aziz Bin Abdul Rahman, managing director of the Malaysian Airlines Company (MAS).

This is the 9th international air route between Ho Chi Minh City and capital cities of other countries.

Vo Chi Cong Visits Hanoi Air Defense Division

BK2005060690 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] On the morning of 17 May, Council of State Chairman Vo Chi Cong called at the 361st Hanoi Air Defense Division on the occasion of its 25th founding anniversary, 19 May 1965-19 May 1990. Accompanying Chairman Vo Chi Cong were Comrade Le Duc Hoi, chairman of the Hanoi City People's Committee, and Comrade Senior Lieutenant General Dang Vu Hiep, deputy director of the Political General Department.

Chairman Vo Chi Cong and his entourage were warmly welcomed by Lt. Gen. Tran Nhan, air defense corps commander; Colonel Pham Trieu Huy, commander of the 361st Division; and many other cadres and combatants. Chairman Vo Chi Cong inspected a combat readiness training session of the 16th Battalion, observed a group of cadres and combatants directing training activities from a commanding vehicle, and called at the division's headquarters and museum.

Speaking on this occasion, Chairman Vo Chi Cong praised cadres and combatants of the 361st Division for their combat and army-building achievements and reminded them of the need to continue developing their revolutionary nature and fine traditions in the new situation by making every effort to develop firm and strong units, by promoting unity and close coordination with other army units and the local people, and by standing ready to outstandingly fulfill all tasks entrusted by the party and people.

Former Vice Premier Dang Viet Chau Dies 21 May

BK2305101790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 22 May 90

[Notice on the death of former Vice Premier Dang Viet Chau; date not given]

[Text] The National Assembly, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV] announce with deep grief that Comrade Dang Viet Chau, former vice premier of the SRV Government, deputy to the National Assembly from its first through its sixth terms of office, an awardee of the 50-Year Party Membership Medal and the Ho Chi Minh Order, died from a brain hemorrhage—resulting from his advanced age and serious illness—at 1915 on 21 May 1990 at the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Hospital, despite the solicitous care given by the party and the state and the wholehearted treatment by medical professors and doctors.

Funeral Committee Set

BK2305102390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 22 May 90

[Notice on the setting up of a funeral committee for former Vice Premier Dang Viet Chau; date not given]

[Text] 1. The Natonal Assembly, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV] hereby decide to set up a funeral committee for comrade Dang Viet Chau, which, with Dong Sy Nguyen, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers as its chairman, will comprise the following members:

—Hoang Minh Thang, member of the CPV Central Committee and minister of trade;
—Hoang Quy, member of the CPV Central Committee and minister of finance;
—Ho Ngoc Nhuong, head of the office of the Council of Ministers;
—Vu Mao, member of the CPV Central Commitee and head of the office of the National Assembly and the Council of State;
—Phan Ngoc Tuong, member of the CPV Central Commitee, minister without portfolio and head of the government's personnel organization committee;
—Nguyen Dinh Huong, member of the CPV Central Committee and deputy head of the party Central Committee Organizational Department;
—Dang Khoi, chairman of the Ha Nam Ninh Provincial People's Committee.

2. The remains of comrade Dang Viet Chau will be laid in state at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall in Hanoi.

3. The tribute-paying ceremony will be held from 0730-1130 on 24 May 1990 while the memorial and funeral services will be held at the Mai Dich cemetery at 1330 on the same day.

Cardinal Trinh Van Can Passes Away 18 May

BK2005084490 Hanoi VNA in English 0727 GMT 20 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 20—Cardinal Trinh Van Can, archbishop of the Hanoi Diocese and ex-founding president of the Vietnam Episcopal Council, died at 20:30 on May 18 at the Hanoi Archbishopric following a violent heart attack.

The cardinal, who was also apostolic administrator of Hue Province and the dioceses of Hung Hoa, Thai Binh and Thanh Hoa Provinces, had long suffered from hypertension and serious heart disease.

Born on March 13, 1921 in Trac But Village, Duy Tien District, Ha Nam Ninh Province, he entered priesthood on December 3, 1949. He was made co-adjutor to the Archbishop of Hanoi on February 5, 1963 and ordained cardinal on June 30, 1979.

Cardinal Trinh Van Can is the second Vietnamese cardinal (after Cardinal Trinh Van Khue) to be ordained in Socialist Vietnam. Cardinal Trinh Van Can presided over the First Episcopal Congress of reunified Vietnam in 1980 at which an epistle was issued affirming the Vietnam Catholic Church's policy of serving the nation and motherland.

The cardinal's funeral will be held at the Hanoi Church at 10:00 on May 23, 1990 according to Catholic rituals.

Leaders Pay Respects

BK2205161390 Hanoi VNA in English 1530 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 22—A solemn memorial service for Cardinal Trinh Van Can was held here from May 20-22.

Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, and Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers, sent their wreaths to pay last respects to the cardinal.

For his part, Pham Van Dong, advisor to the party Central Committee, has sent a card of codolences.

Homagers included delegations of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee, the Commission for Mass Mobilization and Front Work of the party Central Committee, the Commission for Religious Affairs, the

People's Committee and the Front Committee of Hanoi, the Committee for Solidarity of Patriotic Vietnamese Catholics and its branches in Hanoi and other provinces including Ha Nam Ninh, the native land of the late cardinal.

Church Officials at Ceremony

BK2405085290 Hanoi VNA in English 1604 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 23—A solemn funeral was held at the Hanoi Cathedral this morning for Cardinal Trinh Van Can who died of a heart attack on May 18.

The ceremony was officiated by Archbishop Nguyen Van Binh, Bishop Nguyen Minh Nhat, President of the Episcopal Council and Bishop Nguyen Van Sang, Vice-president of the Episcopal Council and Coadjutor Bishop of Hanoi and bishops from many other dioceses.

It was attended by Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, representative of Pope John Paul II.

Also present were Nguyen Chinh, acting chairman of the Government Commission for Religious Affairs, and representatives of the Central Committee of the Fatherland Front, the Fatherland Front Committee and Commission for Religious Affairs of Hanoi.

Catholics from many dioceses throughout the country and the bereaved family were also on hand.

The same day, Cardinal Roger Etchegaray paid a courtesy visit to the Government Commission for Religious Affairs.

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